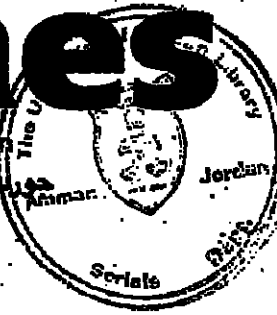


Murphy confers with Prince Saud

RIYADH (AP) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy conferred on Tuesday with Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal, after an overnight meeting with King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, according to the Saudi Press Agency. The agency reported the meetings without providing any detail on subjects discussed. It said the meeting Monday night with King Fahd was attended by Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz and the foreign minister, as well as American Ambassador to the kingdom Walter Cutler. The separate meeting with Prince Saud included the head of the Saudi Foreign Ministry's West European Department, Mamoun Jabani, it said. Diplomats at the U.S. embassy declined any information on the visit. Mr. Murphy arrived here on Monday as part of a Middle East tour designed to discuss the Arab-Israeli peacemaking efforts in light of the outcome of the Geneva superpowers summit conference.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جريدة الأردن السياسية المستقلة المنشورة من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية، الرأى.



Talhouni returns after talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former Prime Minister and member of the Upper House of Parliament Bahjat Talhouni returned to Amman from Rabat on Tuesday after taking part in an annual Euro-Arab dialogue session that ended in the Moroccan capital on Friday. Upon arrival, Mr. Talhouni said in a statement that the participants discussed Middle East issues, the Palestine problem and the situation in Lebanon in addition to the Gulf war. The delegates voiced appreciation for Jordan's endeavours to help solve a just and durable Middle East settlement, he said. A final communique issued at the end of the Rabat meeting said that tension still prevails in the Middle East region due to continued occupation of Arab lands. The statement called for an immediate Israeli withdrawal from Arab lands occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem.

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AMMAN, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1985, RABIA AL AWWAL 20, 1405

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King receives Somali message

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday received a message from Somali President Mohammad Ziad Barre dealing with the latest developments in the region as well as bilateral relations. The message was delivered by Somali Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mohammad Ali Mahmoud during an audience with the King attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Jassam.

Khayyat leaves for S. Arabia

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat left for Saudi Arabia on Tuesday to take part in a seminar by the World Islamic League on methods of slaughtering cattle and sheep in non-Muslim nations. The seminar is organised by the World Health Organisation.

PLO denies any link with suspect

AMMAN (AP) — PLO spokesman on Tuesday denied any connection with a man arrested with explosives in Italy who claimed to be a PLO official. The spokesman's office in Amman, quoting an unnamed senior PLO official, said Omar Saadat, Salem Abdel Fatah "is not a Palestinian and has no relation with the PLO." The man was arrested in Verona, Italy, on terrorism and illegal arms charges. He was holding a Jordanian passport. (See page 2).

Bomb explodes in Afula

TEL AVIV (AP) — A small bomb exploded in the northern city of Afula on Tuesday but caused no casualties or damage, police said. Authorities detained 42 Arabs for questioning. Afula police told the Associated Press. Police said the bomb blew up in shrubbery lining a main road in the city 120 kilometres north of Jerusalem.

S. Yemen could be next Israeli target, leader says

ADEN (R) — South Yemen could be the target of an Israeli attack because of its support for the Palestine cause, President Ali Nasser Mohammad has said. In a speech during a naval exercise on Monday, Mr. Nasser Mohammad said: "We should not exclude the possibility of an attack on Democratic (South) Yemen by an Israeli air or naval force."

Jaruzelski, Benjedid hold private talks

ALGIERS (AP) — Poland's president, Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, conferred privately with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid for several hours on Tuesday on the second day of the Polish leader's two-day official visit to Algeria. The agency gave no indication of the subjects discussed or the outcome of the talks.

Lower House voices full support for King's policies

House sends cable to King after briefing by prime minister on political developments

By Lami K. Andouli
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament on Tuesday expressed full support for His Majesty King Hussein's political moves to achieve Arab solidarity and unify Arab ranks.

The House's support was expressed in a cable by Speaker Akef Al Fayez following a one-and-a-half-hour closed session in which Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai briefed the deputies on recent Jordanian political moves in both the Arab and international arenas.

"The House has listened in a close session to a statement by the prime minister on recent Jordanian political moves in the Arab and international levels at this critical stage which our Arab Nation faces... and on Your Majesty's

blessed efforts to achieve Arab solidarity... on the basis of the noble principles which the stable policy of Jordan is built on and which stem from the message of the Great Arab Revolt whose banner you are holding with honesty, sincerity and courage," the cable said.

The cable also voiced deep appreciation and gratitude for the King's moves and policies as explained and outlined by the prime minister and full support for the King's and the government's recent moves and future efforts.

"The House supports Your Majesty in your moves and courageous instructions to your government and blesses your praised efforts... which aim at reunifying Arab ranks and achieving the aspirations and hopes of the Arab Nation."

No information was available to the press on the closed session since deputies refused to speak to reporters, saying that "secrecy was part of the agreement between Parliament and the government to such candid briefings."

The prime minister holds periodic closed meetings with members of the two Houses of Parliament to discuss the government's policies and future directions. Parliament requests such meetings.

The last such meeting took place three months ago and the parliamentarians felt that recent developments pertaining to Arab

(Continued on page 5)

Feb. 11 accord represents Jordanian and Palestinian hopes, Salah tells U.N.

NEW YORK (Petra) — Jordan has called on the United Nations to help the Palestinian people regain their legitimate rights in their homeland and said that Israel's intransigence was responsible for the continuation of the state of tension in the Middle East region.

The call was made by Jordan's permanent representative at the world organisation, Mr. Abdullah Salah, in an address to the General Assembly which is currently debating the Palestine problem.

Mr. Salah told the assembly that the Palestine problem is the oldest and most chronic problem on the assembly's agenda and constitutes the most dangerous conflict that continues to threaten world peace and security. Besides, this problem presents the world com-

munity with the most just cause in contemporary history, Mr. Salah added.

"If having a just cause is not sufficient for the legitimate owners to regain their homeland, then it must be emphasised that the right of the aggressors can never succeed in stopping these owners from pursuing the struggle for attaining their rights," Mr. Salah said.

The Palestinians and the Arabs at large, he said, can by no means accept capitulation nor can they accept to remain subject to acts of terror and extremism. Therefore, he added, it became incumbent upon an eligible party to take the initiative and do something to break the current deadlock and the vicious circle.

Jordan has called on the United Nations to shoulder its responsibility and restore the rights of the Palestinians, but, unfortunately, numerous attempts in this respect over the past years have not achieved any breakthrough with the result that the no-war, no-peace situation has continued until now, Mr. Salah pointed out.

He said Jordan has not only sympathised with the Palestinians in their ordeal but its people have been feeling and sharing the sufferings caused by the oppressive practices of the Israelis against the Arab inhabitants. Israel's continued drive to Judaise the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the

(Continued on page 5)

Israelis, Palestinians fight pitched battle in E. Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Helicopter-borne Israeli troops punched into Lebanon's Bekaa Valley on Tuesday in a raid on Palestinian bases and fought an eight-hour battle with commandos. Lebanese and Palestinian sources reported.

Israel's military command said five fighters of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) were killed and several captured in the strike northeast of Hama, 20 kilometres north of the Israeli border.

A statement by the PFLP-GC in Damascus said many Israeli soldiers were killed or wounded in the fighting, often hand-to-hand.

The battle, in which the Israelis used at least 250 troops, eight tanks and six helicopter gunships, raged close to the Syrian border 10 kilometres north of Israel's self-styled "security zone."

Security sources in South Lebanon reported that apart from the Palestinian casualties, a Lebanese army sergeant and two militiamen were killed by Israeli tank and machine gun fire.

The sources said 10 Palestinians and five militiamen were wounded in the fighting as the Israelis raked the area around the Palestinian base at a hamlet called Houk.

The Israeli command in Tel Aviv made no mention of any Israeli losses. The command claimed the commandos had been planning to launch attacks into Lebanon from a PFLP base.

A PFLP-GC spokesman said in Damascus: "Hundreds of Israeli paratroopers were involved in a pre-dawn attack on one of our forwardmost bases."

"The enemy could not carry out the attack as planned and the battle lasted about eight hours."

PLO condemns killing of West Bank lawyer

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on Tuesday condemned the assassination of a West Bank lawyer, Aziz Shehadeh, who was stabbed to death in front of his home on Monday.

"The PLO condemns and denounces such serious and deplorable acts, especially because the late Mr. Shehadeh had retired from political roles several years ago," the PLO said in a statement released in Amman.

The statement noted that Mr. Shehadeh, 73, was an old man and that he had been doing legal work to prevent sale of West Bank land to Israeli settlers.

The PLO "sends its condolences and deep respects to the family of the assassinated man," the statement said.

Mr. Shehadeh, a prominent lawyer who advocated the cre-

ation of a Palestinian state co-existing in peace with Israel, was found stabbed to death near his home in Ramallah.

It was unclear whether Mr. Shehadeh was murdered because of his political views or for business reasons, the television said, adding his legal practice was the largest on the occupied West Bank.

Mr. Shehadeh was stabbed after driving home from work, it said. Born in Bethlehem and educated in Jerusalem, Mr. Shehadeh practised law in Jerusalem until 1948, when he moved to Ramallah.

After Israel occupied the West Bank in the 1967 war, Mr. Shehadeh was one of the first Arabs to advocate creation of an independent Palestinian state as part

(Continued on page 5)

Amal, PSP seek support for joint security plan

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Syria's main allies in Lebanon were on Tuesday canvassing support for security measures aimed at restoring order to west Beirut and strengthening their hand in negotiations on ending the civil war.

The Shi'ite Amal militia and the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) said they had agreed a security plan for west Beirut and would ask Prime Minister Rashid Karame to give it the go-ahead within two or three days at the latest.

A joint statement on Monday said the proposals followed the main outlines of a Syrian-backed security plan implemented in July after a previous round of Amal-PSP fighting.

The announcement was the latest step in an attempt by the militias to patch up their formal alliance, battered last month by fierce Amal-PSP battles in which 68 people were killed and about 300 wounded in west Beirut.

A spokesman for Amal, Mohammad Beydoun, said: "Amal and the PSP are anxious to put the past behind them and to protect their national action on major issues."

Political observers say healing inter-militia rifts is essential to Syria's goal of ending the civil war through agreement between Lebanon's main rival militias.

Allied against the large mostly Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia, Amal and the PSP have nevertheless fought half a dozen battles in west Beirut this year.

On another front, snipers duelled all night across Beirut's dividing green line and police said Tuesday five civilians were wounded.

The militia clashes tapered off at daybreak, allowing traffic to travel between the capital's two sectors through mid-city and suburban crossings, police said.



His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday cuts a ribbon centre at the Queen Alia International Airport to mark the inauguration of a new radar control (Petra photo)

King opens new radar control centre at QAIA

By Lina Nabil
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor attended a ceremony on Tuesday at the Queen Alia International Airport (QAIA) to mark the opening of a new air traffic radar control centre, set up to help maintain safety for air transport operations.

At the outset of the ceremony King Hussein cut the tape and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Later in the ceremony the King distributed awards to engineers and officials from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and to the director of a British firm involved

in the project and other officials in recognition of their efforts and their implementation of the vital project.

The King also inspected the control centre and a radar-simulator training centre and was briefed by officials on their function and training programmes.

CAA Director Khaled Mohammad Ali made a speech at the ceremony in which he commended the King's concern for promoting air safety measures in Jordan. The new centre, Mr. Ali said, is bound to increase the efficiency of air traffic control systems and will therefore provide safer and speedier travel through Jordanian air space and more efficient take-off and landing operations with no delays due to weather conditions.

Mr. Ali also paid tribute to Queen Noor for her continued support and efforts towards raising the efficiency and standards of the Queen Noor Civil Aviation Technical Training Institute.

The Queen's efforts have influenced the institute's success as a leading training institute of its kind in the whole Middle East region, Mr. Ali said.

The director of Marconi Radars Limited, the contracting company which carried out the new radar project, made a speech in which he

(Continued on page 5)

Yarmouk University to use old and new campuses on permanent basis

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In a bid to expand Jordan's higher education facilities, Yarmouk University will utilise both its temporary and permanent sites on a permanent basis in order to gradually double its number of students, Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran has announced.

Approximately 14,450 students are currently enrolled in the university at its temporary site in the city of Irbid. Earlier plans had called for Yarmouk University to move all of its facilities to a permanent site just outside Irbid in June 1986.

Dr. Badran said the university

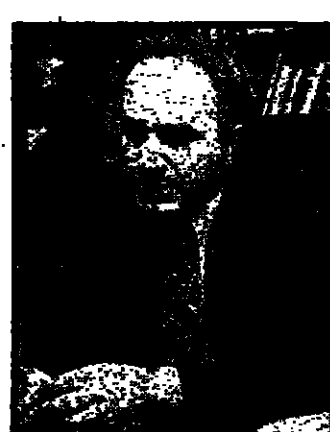
June 1986.

In an effort to accommodate an increasing number of the 50,000 Jordanian students who are currently forced to pursue higher education abroad, due to the limited capacity of the three Jordanian universities, Yarmouk will maintain its temporary site as a permanent institution for humanities, business and graduate studies, while its science, medical and technical facilities will be moved to the permanent site in June 1986.

Dr. Badran told the Jordan Times in a recent interview.

Dr. Badran said the university

(Continued on page 5)



Dr. Adnan Badran

EC leaders in marathon discussions

LUXEMBOURG (AP) — Western European leaders on Tuesday went into a marathon session in an effort to chart fundamental reforms for the 28-year-old Common Market, the world's largest trading bloc.

Progress was slow, officials said, and there was no certainty that the 12 leaders would reach final conclusions on the second and last day of their summit.

A British official, who would not be quoted by name, said: "It's a snail's pace, and sometimes not in a single direction."

During the tortuous negotiations, French President Francois Mitterrand made what his spokesman called a "very strenuous intervention," saying if the tone of the talks did not improve, "we will be risking failure. If we don't reach agreement there will be great disappointment."

The 10 member states of the Common Market, or European Community (EC), working with Spain and Portugal which will formally join Jan. 1, had as a goal amendments to the 1957 Treaty of Rome to make the market more efficient and effective.

The Common Market leaders decided at a Milan summit last June to launch the reform process by seeking amendments to the founding Rome Treaty.

All 12 national parliaments would have to ratify any proposed treaty amendments.

Egypt and Israel reopen Taba talks

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian, Israeli and American delegates opened a new round of talks on Tuesday on a Sinai border dispute whose resolution Egypt says is the key to improving its relations with Israel.

The talks, which Egypt postponed after the Oct. 1 Israeli raid on Palestine Liberation Organisation headquarters in Tunisia, are aimed at narrowing differences over Taba, a one-square kilometre strip of beach along the Gulf of Aqaba.

An Egyptian delegate, however, told reporters the morning session included other issues that he refused to divulge.

"You know they (Israelis) haven't been here for some time," said the delegate, speaking to the AP on condition he not be identified. "We discussed several issues, not just Taba."

Assistant Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Badawy, leader of the Egyptian delegation, said it was "premature to tell you anything now."

David Kimche, director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry and a leader of his country's

(Continued on page 5)

Dutch move to scrap nuclear tasks under bitter NATO attack

BRUSSELS (R) — NATO defence ministers on Tuesday criticised a unilateral decision by The Netherlands to reduce the nuclear roles of its armed forces and appealed to the Dutch to reconsider, officials said.

A senior NATO official said the ministers were "profoundly unhappy" with the Dutch decision to eliminate two wartime nuclear tasks assigned to its air force when U.S. cruise missiles are deployed in The Netherlands in 1988.

"Nearly all of them made the point that the political implications for sharing risks and burdens on the part of the Dutch by dropping these two roles were

unwelcome," he said.

The most outspoken criticism came from the other countries deploying U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 missiles — Britain, West Germany, Italy and Belgium.

Diplomats said British Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine called the decision "profoundly disturbing," and suggested the Dutch had given in to pressure from anti-nuclear protest movements.

Dutch Defence Minister Jacob de Ruiter replied that it might otherwise have been impossible to persuade his parliament to approve the basing of the 48 cruise missiles.

(Continued on page 5)

Mubarak rules out attack on Libya

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak said on Tuesday Egypt has no plans to fight Libya, despite the state of alert ordered for armed forces on the western border last week.

In his most explicit statement to date on the issue, the president said: "Egypt is an Arab and an African country and it is impossible for Egypt to fight an Arab or African brother."

Egyptian Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi reported Mr. Mubarak's statement to a conference of African interior ministers and said he was referring to the reported presence of troops on the border with Libya.

Mr. Rushdi quoted Mr. Mubarak as telling the ministers: "It is mere calculation for any expected developments," apparently meaning that the military alert was only a precaution.

Egypt put its forces on alert after gunmen, suspected by Cairo to have Libyan backing, hijacked an Egyptian plane to Malta 10 days ago. The hijack ended with the loss of 60 lives.

Libya accused Egypt of preparing an invasion with U.S. support but Egypt denied the charge.

But the Egyptian leader's statement Tuesday that the border alert was "mere calculation for any expected developments" was his most specific rebuff so far to the possibility of war.

Egypt's Armed Forces Chief of Staff Ibrahim Orabi said Tuesday that Libya also had been massing troops along its eastern borders with both Egypt and Sudan.

"We have spotted increasing activities on both frontlines and accordingly took precautionary defensive measures," Lieutenant-General Orabi told reporters. "This (Egyptian alert) is an ordinary military measure to confront any possibilities."

He also said Egyptian ground and air forces had just ended a three-day exercise, aimed at improving combat capability, that had gone on connection with the Libyan troop concentrations.

In Damascus, Syria's government-controlled newspaper Tuesday bannered President Hafez Al Assad's support for Libyan strongman Colonel Muammar Jadhafi against "those who are thinking of attacking Libya."

Mr. Assad's vice president, Abdul Halim Khaddam, returned Monday night from Tripoli where he had delivered a letter to Col. Jadhafi "connected with the conspiracy to which Libya is now subject," the Syrian Arab News Agency reported.

Officials did not specify which country was threatening Libya.

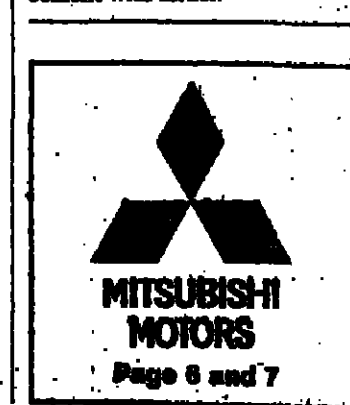
But Libya on Monday charged in a memorandum to the United Nations that Egypt and the United States were preparing "an aggression against Libyan territory."

SANA said Mr. Khaddam "stressed that Syria stands firmly with all its capacity to confront and foil this plot which aims at imposing the status of co-offender and humiliation on the Arab Nation."

Mr. Khaddam declared that "Syria has taken a decision to confront and oppose this conspiracy, using all ways and means that such confrontation requires."

President Mubarak said last week that Libyan links to the hijacking were "clear" and other Egyptian officials said Egypt was seeking evidence to establish Libyan role in the affair.

Libya and Egypt fought a brief border war in 1977 and Col. Jadhafi has been one of the most vehement critics of Egypt's 1979 U.S.-sponsored Camp David agreement with Israel.



MITSUBISHI MOTORS

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Iraqi jets raid ship off Iran

50 Iranians reportedly killed on war front

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said Tuesday its warplanes raided an unidentified ship off the Iranian coast for the first time in eight days, as its ground forces killed 50 Iranian soldiers in a clash across the central sector of the Gulf war front line.

A military spokesman, reading a communique on the state radio, the "large maritime target was raided near the Iranian coast at 12:55 p.m. (0955 GMT)."

The raiding jets "scored a direct and effective hit on the target and returned safely," the spokesman said.

The attack was carried out to "maintain the blockade imposed on the aggressors (Iranians) until they accept peace," the spokesman added without further elaboration.

The term large maritime target usually refers to a tanker. Marine salvage executives in the Gulf said they had no immediate confirmation of the claim.

Iraq last reported such an attack on Nov. 25, but it was also not confirmed independently.

Iraq has been attacking ships in the north eastern sector of the Gulf waterway since February 1984 when it declared a blockade on Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal to impede its foe's oil exports.

The blockade has been tightened since Aug. 15 with Iraq reporting almost daily air raids on the Kharg terminal itself which accounts for 90 per cent of Iran's oil exports.

Iraq has also introduced long-range French-made Mirage F-1 jet fighters to launch the lethal Exocet missiles against tankers sailing south of the 50-mile radius exclusion zone defined around Kharg Island since February 1984, according to Gulf shipping executives.

Reporting the overnight skirmishing with Iranian forces across the central sector of the 1,180-kilometre-long front, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted an unidentified military source as saying Iraq did not sustain "any substantial casualties."

Iranian forces, according to the source, tried to approach Iraqi positions but were "beaten off" and sustained 50 dead and a number of wounded soldiers.

Tehran Radio, in a broadcast

monitored in London claimed that Iranian forces carried out a "penetrating operation" five kilometres inside Iraq during the night and killed or wounded more than 100 Iraqis.

The radio said two Iraqi bases in the central border region were attacked in the five-hour battle.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei said two days ago that Iran would launch a big offensive in the near future.

"Iran's Muslim troops are ready to inflict a crucial blow upon Iraq and to pave the way for a mass march by Iranians towards the holy (Iraqi) city of Karbala," IRNA reported Khamenei saying at a mass rally of Basij volunteers in Dan city south west of Tehran.

Iran has launched dozens of hit-and-run raids since mid-June. The latest coincided with the end of "Basij week," celebrations in which thousands of volunteers have set off for the front lines.

In Baghdad, a military spokesman said Iraqi planes attacked Iran's main Kharg Island oil export terminal in the northern Gulf Monday for the 45th time since mid-August.

Military experts and diplomats say Iraqi troops are on alert along the entire 1,180-kilometre front

in readiness for the threatened Iranian offensive.

In Kuwait, Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal said Tuesday that his country did not wish to play the role of arbiter between warring Iran and Iraq, urging an immediate end to the five-year-old conflict.

"I believe the conflict should be solved along political lines, a just settlement that safeguards the sovereignty and independence of both (warring) sides," Mr. Strougal told reporters before going into a session of talks with the ruler of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Government sources said he invited Sheikh Jaber and Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah to visit Czechoslovakia.

Later in the day, Mr. Strougal held a session of talks with acting Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad, who also is foreign minister of this Gulf state.

Official sources said the talks dealt mainly with means of strengthening economic and trade ties between Czechoslovakia and Kuwait.

The two men also discussed the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict and issues related to "world peace," the same sources added without elaborating.

U.S. officials to question Israeli spies

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — U.S. authorities will question three Israeli spies about their involvement with an American spy intelligence analyst accused of spying for Israel, and the head of the espionage unit likely will be retired, Israeli sources said Tuesday.

The sources said the secret department that channelled information supplied by spy analyst Jonathan Pollard had ceased its clandestine activities, thus keeping Israel's public pledge to dismantle the unit involved.

The unit, headed by former Mossad operations officer Rafael Eitan, was to monitor U.S. scientific and technological research through Israel's embassy and consulates in the United States, according to U.S. newspaper reports.

Eitan, who served as a special adviser on terrorism to Prime Ministers Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir, was expected to leave the government payroll, said the sources who spoke on condition of anonymity.

They said Eitan would be retired gracefully and quietly, since disgracing him in public could create a political furor.

Eitan is active in right-wing politics in the Likud Bloc, the main partner with Prime Minister Shimon Peres' Labour Party in a multi-party coalition government.

A Foreign Ministry official said Israel and the United States were still considering when U.S. investigators might question the Israelis.

If the investigators come here, the official said, the Israelis "would be interviewed, not interrogated."

He did not elaborate, but other sources said the Israelis would not be forced to answer all questions as if they were undergoing a criminal investigation.

In addition to Eitan, the Americans would question Yosef Yagur, the scientific attaché in the New York consulate, and Ilan Ravid, the deputy scientific attaché in Washington, the sources said.

The two diplomats were recalled to Israel shortly after FBI agents arrested Pollard on Nov. 21 outside the Israeli embassy in Washington, officials said.

Israel's agreement to permit the interviews apparently came during a one-hour telephone call between Peres and Secretary of State George Shultz at 3 a.m. Sunday.

Peres told a closed meeting with American Jewish leaders Monday that the phone call "clarified many misunderstandings between us."

Peres' spokesman said. Following the conversation Israel issued a qualified apology, promising disciplinary action and the dismantling of the unit involved if an inquiry proved that Pollard had been recruited to spy for Israel.

The Washington Post reported that Eitan had risen to become head of operations for the Mossad, "leaving it in the mid-1970s" when Ariel Sharon recruited him to be his assistant. Sharon was working as an "adviser on counter-terrorism" for then-Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

The Post said that Eitan "retained his connections with Mossad" even when he and Sharon left government service in 1976 to set up a joint fishing enterprise at El Arish in Sinai. Eitan also established a separate business in France.

In 1978, Begin named Eitan his adviser. Eitan continued in this post under Shamir, but he was removed last year by Peres.

Eitan, however, has been allowed to continue to coordinate "scientific" intelligence-gathering operations since then. It was this operation — through the science attaches at the Israeli embassy in Washington and the consulate in

Rafael Eitan

New York — that reportedly worked with Pollard.

Eitan has sought to distance himself from the incident, telling Ma'ariv last week: "I may have something to say, but at a later stage. At this point, the wisest thing is not to respond to all of the attacks against me because past experience proves that the best thing an intelligence man can do is stay away from the media."

The Post called Eitan "a legendary figure in Israeli intelligence circles" who was a member of the team which kidnapped Adolf Eichmann in Buenos Aires in 1960.

Eitan is said to have left the Mossad in the mid-1970s after it became clear he was not going to be named to head the agency.

Sudan takes tough line on strikes

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — The Sudanese government announced tough new guidelines Tuesday on how it intends to handle illegal strikes after a series of walk-outs by groups of workers ranging from teachers to government vets.

A cabinet statement said the government would refuse to negotiate with strikers who stopped work before going through the preliminary procedures laid down in law.

The government would also in future apply the full rigour of the law to anyone who took part in all illegal strike, the statement added.

At least seven different categories of government employees have staged illegal strikes over the past month to press demands for better pay or administrative changes in their departments.

The most serious were those by telecommunications and fuel distribution workers last month. Vets and senior civil servants in the provinces have returned to work in the last few days without the authorities meeting their demands.

At a meeting Monday, the cabinet also voted to continue cooperation with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) "on the basis of objective appreciation of the economic and social con-

ditions of the country," the official Sudan News Agency SUNA said. Sudan owes the IMF over \$200 million in arrears and has no immediate prospect of raising enough cash to pay them off or signing a new letter of intent with the organisation.

The government has been under pressure from political parties to repudiate this and other debts on the grounds they were contracted by the government of former President Jaafar Numeiri, deposed in an April military coup.

An IMF mission is currently in Khartoum to discuss the arrears in preparation for an IMF meeting in Washington on Jan. 3. Three earlier IMF meetings agreed to postpone declaring Sudan in default, a step which would further damage the country's poor credit rating.

Princess Anne in Sudan — Meanwhile, Princess Anne of Britain arrived Monday on a one-week visit during which she will visit British relief activities across Sudan at a time when the government has expelled three foreign relief agencies and is looking into the operations of others.

Princess Anne is president of the British Save the Children Fund which has spent about £15 million (\$22.2 million) on relief operations in Sudan during the past 12 months.

Princess Anne was greeted by Prime Minister El Gazouly Dafa-Allah, and is scheduled to participate Tuesday in the opening ceremony of a thermal power station funded by a British grant of £48 million (\$71 million) and which will supply 50 per cent of the capital's electricity.

She is also scheduled to visit famine refugee camps in Darfur, west Sudan and Sefawa and Wad Kowli in east Sudan.

Her visit comes at a time when three foreign relief agencies have been expelled from Sudan for allegedly helping in last year's secret evacuation of Ethiopian Jews to Israel.

One of the agencies, the International Catholic Migration Commission, has denied it was involved in the evacuation.

An official announcement Thursday said the three were operating without licences and the government was establishing a committee to review the operations of all foreign relief agencies.

After weeks of public squabbling between the French doctors and the government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, the government announced Monday it had halted MSF's operations in Ethiopia.

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Sheikh Zayed, Swareddahab urge end to Gulf war

ABU DHABI, UAE (AP) — Leaders of the United Arab Emirates and Sudan Tuesday urged a quick end to the "destructive" war in the Gulf between the two Muslim countries.

UAE President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan and head of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council Abdul Rahman Swareddahab held official talks here which dealt with "the situation in the Middle East and current developments in the Gulf region," the Emirates News Agency (WAM) reported.

WAM quoted an official source as saying the talks "reflected identical interests and objectives between the two countries on all the topics discussed."

The talks also covered bilateral relations and means to "boost cooperation especially in the economic field," the agency added.

Gen. Swareddahab arrived here Monday on an official visit, described by diplomatic sources as aimed mainly at seeking UAE financial assistance to improve Sudan's debt-ridden economy.

Gen. Swareddahab urged the UAE government to increase the size of its economic aid to Sudan, the sources said. The UAE government, through its Abu Dhabi Fund For Arab Economic Development, granted \$38 million to the Sudan since 1974.

Abdul Fatah was arrested last Thursday in Verona and the sources said police had found 20 kilograms of explosives, five electronic timers, detonators, pistols and machine guns in his house near the northern Italian city.

They said he told police he belonged to Fatah, the main faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) headed by Yasser Arafat.

Abu Abbas aide held in Rome for questioning

VERONA, Italy (R) — Italian police are questioning a suspected accomplice of Palestinian commando leader Abu Abbas about the hijack of an Egyptian plane to Malta last month, police sources have said.

Omar Sadat Salem Abdul Fatah, 38, was in Athens on November 23, the day hijackers seized an Egyptian flight after it left the Greek capital on its way to Cairo and forced it to land in Malta, the Carabinieri police sources said.

The sources said Abdul Fatah was believed to have been the man who accompanied Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) leader Abu Abbas to Yugoslavia in October after they were released by Italy at the end of the Achille Lauro cruise liner hijack.

Abu Abbas and his companion had helped negotiate the surrender of the four ship hijackers, who were arrested after a plane taking all six men from Cairo to Tunis was forced down in Sicily by U.S. fighters. Abu Abbas was released despite a U.S. request he be detained pending extradition proceedings.

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Tehran denies French team will visit Iran

TEHRAN (R) — Iran Tuesday denied reports that a French delegation would be visiting Tehran this week to help pave the way for release of four French hostages held by Islamic Jihad in Lebanon.

Tehran Radio said Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi's office had "strongly denied" that any such visit was in the offing and a senior French diplomat said Iran had not linked the hostage issue to its relations with France.

Jean-Marie Daillet of the centre-right UDF party said in Paris on Friday he would probably lead a French parliamentary delegation to Tehran this week.

But the Iranian News Agency IRNA said Monday night that "commenting on the unconfirmed foreign media reports, the prime minister's office said there is no reason why such a visit should be made."

Mr. Daillet said Tehran had hinted that it would also send a mission to Lebanon to inquire about four Frenchmen held there by pro-Iranian guerrillas if Paris made a goodwill gesture over Iranian funds frozen in Paris.

In Beirut, the newspaper An Nahar reported on Sunday that a French mercy mission had returned to Paris from Lebanon with a message that France should improve ties with Iran if it wanted kidnappers to free the hostages.

Doctor Razzah Raad and French diplomat Pierre Blouin spent 11 days in Lebanon seeking to free the hostages, believed held by the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad (holy war) group.

A French delegation visited Tehran last month to discuss repayment for a billion dollar loan granted by the late Shah of Iran in 1975 to help finance a French uranium enrichment consortium.

But a senior French diplomat in

Tehran told Reuters Tuesday "the Iranians have never linked the hostage problem with the loan or even with an improvement in relations. These groups in Lebanon are more Iranian than the Iranians."

He said that Iran had always stressed its opposition to kidnappings and if the opportunity presented itself, Tehran would help secure the hostages' freedom.

The four kidnap victims are diplomat Marcel Carton and Marcel Fontaine, journalist Jean-Paul Kauffmann and Arabist researcher Michel Seurat.

French and Iranian officials said France and Iran were probably not close to reaching agreement on the loan, but they said negotiations were continuing.

A flurry of signals between Paris and Tehran has raised cautious hopes that Iran could help pave the way to the release of four French hostages in Lebanon, according to diplomats.

Relations between Iran and France have been seriously strained since the Islamic Revolution of 1979 but efforts to secure the hostages' release have led to increased contacts between the two countries.

France's External Relations Minister Roland Dumas on Friday described Tehran as one of three "keys."

Speaking after the return to Paris of a two-man French mercy mission to Lebanon, Dumas said he was hopeful for the first time about the fate of the hostages.

Kauffmann's wife Joelle also emphasised Iran's possible role, saying she had been assured of help in response to a letter she wrote to Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

"I was told that the Iranian authorities will do all they can in their power to work towards the release of Jean-Paul," she said, commenting on a meeting with Iran's charge d'affaires in Paris, Ali Reza Moayeri.

Diplomats said Iran's position would be critical as all four French hostages are believed to be held by the Islamic Jihad.

But they added that Iran was "unlikely to act without something in return from Paris."

Iran's desire for a broader agreement was indicated on Friday by the leader of a delegation of French parliamentarians due to visit Tehran later this week at the invitation of Iran.

French officials said that Paris was exploring all possible avenues to a solution. "There is an enormous amount of activity at the moment but it must remain discreet," an External Relations Ministry spokesman said.

Tehran's apparent desire for reconciliation with Paris follows statements by Iranian leaders in July that its diplomats should seek new allies for the six-year-old Islamic Republic.

Iran's relations with France, once the exile home of Khomeini, plunged near to breaking point after Paris agreed to harbour the deposed Shah's last Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiari.

The release of a four-man commando jailed in France for the attempted assassination of Bakhtiari in 1980 has been among the demands made by the hostages' pro-Iranian captors.

The kidnappers have also demanded that France take a more even-handed position in the five-year Gulf war between Iran and Iraq by providing both sides with an equal amount of arms.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

MAIN CHANNEL

17:00 Koran
17:30 Carousels
17:45 Children Programmes
18:00 Agricultural Programmes
19:30 Programme Review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:40 Arabic Series
21:00 Programme Review
21:30 Poetry
22:00 Wrestling
23:10 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:15 Varieties
20:00 News in Hebrew
20:30 News in Arabic
20:30 Three's Company
21:10 Documentary Connection
22:00 News in English
23:30 Remington Steele

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 90 MHz, FM
& partly on 95.60 KHz, SW
Tel: 77411-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Pop Session
12:05 News Summary
13:00 Pop Session
13:05 News Summary
14:00 Pop Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:15 The Young Sound
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Over a Cup of Tea
18:30 Arab Music
19:30 News
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
21:25 News Summary
23:00 Evening Show Continued
23:05 News Summary
23:57 News Headlines
24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Waveguide 06:40
Book Choice 06:45 Financial News
06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News
07:05 24 Hours: News Summary 07:20
07:30 News 07:45 The World Today
08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Meridian 09:00
World News 09:05 24 Hours: News
Summary 09:20 The Falconer's Tale
09:30 News 09:45 World News
10:00 Reflections 10:15 Classical Re-
view 10:30 Just a Minute 11:00
World News 11:05 British Press Review
11:15 News 11:30 World News
11:45 10:45 Derby Report 11:45 Kitten
on the Keys 12:00 News Summary: The
State of the Nation 12:30 Johnson and
Company 12:45 Brotherhood of Brass
Quintet 12:45 World News about
Britain 13:15 Music Show 13:25 A Letter
from Wales 13:30 Meridian 14:00 Radio
Newswatch 14:15 D.H. Lawrence 14:25
The Farming World 14:45 Sports
Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 24
Hours: News Summary 15:30 Music
from the Movies 16:00 News Summary:
Outlook 16:30 Hubert Gregg Remem-
bers 16:45 The Sacred Choir 17:00
Radio Newswatch 17:15 A Future for the
Industrial Past 17:30 Sam Mink Goes
West 17:45 World News 18:00 Newsweek
18:15 Rock Solid 18:45 The World
Today 19:00 World News 19:05 A Letter
from Wales 19:15 Monitor 19:30
Assignment 19:35 Waveguide 19:40
Book Choice 19:45 Sports Round-up
20:00 Newsweek 20:30 Promenade Con-
cert 20:40 The Farming World 21:00
News Summary: Outlook 21:28 Out-
look 22:00 World News 22:05 24 Hours:
News Summary 22:30 Assignment 23:00
News Summary: Network U.K. 23:15
Album Time 00:25 A Letter from Wales
00:30 Financial News 00:40 Reflections
00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World
News 01:05 Contemporary 01:15 Good
Books 01:30 Top Twenty

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9365, 17740,
11925 and 15210 KHz

06:00 News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 Voice
Morning 06:30 News 07:10 Newsline
07:30 News 07:45 Morning News 08:10
Newsline 08:30 Voice Morning News
09:30 News
09:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
21:25 News Summary
23:00 Evening Show Continued
23:05 News Summary
23:57 News Headlines
24:00 Close Down

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Contemporary Egyptian art at
Jordan National Museum (until
Dec. 10)

* French exhibition "Litté-
ratures du xxe siècle" at the
French Cultural Centre (until
Dec. 6).

* An art exhibition by Iraqi artist
Dia Al Azawi at the Royal Cultural
Centre (until Dec. 10).

* West German architecture exhi-
bition "New Buildings in Old
Settings" organised by the Ger-
man Institute at the University of
Jordan's Department of Archi-
tecture (until Dec. 4)

* An exhibition on the French
teletext system "Antiope" at
6:30 p.m. at the French Cultural
Centre (until Dec. 14)

* Islamic book exhibition at
Yarmouk University's Islamic
Centre (until Dec. 11)

FILM WEEK

* Italian Film Week at the Royal
Cultural Centre daily at 8:00
p.m. Tonight's film: "A Glass
Full of Snow."

* "Acht Jahre Spaeter" at 8:00
p.m. at Goethe Institute.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre : Tel: 6610267
American Centre : 644371
American Centre library : 641320
British Council : 6361478
French Cultural Centre : 637009
Goethe Institute : 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre : 644025
Czech Cultural Centre : 640409
Turkish Cultural Centre : 639777
Hayat Arts Centre : 665195
Haramia Youth Club : 6671816
Y.W.C.A. : 641793
Y.W.M.C.A. : 666251
American Municipal Library : 637111
University of Jordan Library : 843555

MUSEUMS

Reliquary Museum: Jewellery and cos-
tumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics

from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th
centuries). The Roman Theatre.
Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5
p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631766
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an
excellent collection of the antiquities of
Jordan. Jabel Al Jara (Jaffa Hill).
Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Today (Fridays) and official holidays 10:00 a.m.
to 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a col-
lection of paintings, ceramics, and scul-
ptures by contemporary Islamic artists
from most of the Muslim countries and a
collection of paintings by 19th Century
European artists. Amman. Jabel
Lubwath. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m.
1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum):
Collection of military memorabilia dat-
ing from the Arab Revolt of 1916.
Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9
a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel.
664240.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to
150 year old items such as costumes,
weapons, musical instruments, etc.
Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637160.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabel Amman, tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman
Catholic) Jabel Lubwath, 637440.
De la Sille Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabel Hiverna, 661737.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek
Orthodox) Abdali, 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Red-
eemer) Jabel Amman, 678906.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafiah,
771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafiah,
775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Or-
thodox) Ashrafiah, 771751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-
denominational): meets at Southern
Baptist School in Shamsiyyah, 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Jabel
Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Seay), Tel.
811255.
Armenian Congregation (International)
Church of the Redeemer, Jabel
Amman. Tel. 663249.

PRAYER TIMES
04:53 Fajr
06:20 (Sunnar) Dhuhr
11:25 Dhuhr
14:12 'Asr
16:48 Maghrib
17:58 'Isha

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Air in-
formation department at the Queen Alia
International Airport tel. (06) 53200-5,
where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:30 London, Larnaca (BA)
07:50 Karachi (PK)
08:15 Athens (OY)
08:30 Kuwait (KU)
08:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
08:55 Jeddah (RJ)
09:05 Tripoli, Lebanon (LV)
09:15 Beirut (ME)
09:25 Cairo, Damascus (LY)
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17:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:30 Istanbul, Amsterdam (KLM)
07:30 Athens (OY)
07:50 Larnaca, London (BA)
08:30 Athens (OY)
08:45 Athens (OY)
09:15 Damascus, Rome (OY)
10:15 Dammam, Cairo (OY)
10:30 Dammam, Cairo (OY)
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19:40 Dhaman (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:00 Cairo (RJ)
20:10 Jeddah (RJ)
20:30 Baghdad (IA)
20:35 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:38 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
21:15 Karachi (PK)
21:20 Beirut (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba
port:

--- Khartoum
--- Suez
--- Nedlloyd Roum
--- Al Salentian
--- Kaia C
--- Ibn Hassan
--- Mont Vieux
--- RMS Ventura
--- Proud Eagle
--- Sagat Star
--- Albin Kohls
--- Celina Torralba

Amia Kavar and Sons Company. Tel:
622324-9 at your service.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of
Meteorology.

It will be relatively cold and partly
cloudy, with northeasterly moderate
winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly
moderate and calm sea.

Low/high temperature in deg. C

Amman 7/14
Aqaba 13/22
Desserts 5/15
Jordan Valley 11/21

MONEY EXCHANGE

Tuesday rates
Local selling rates in Jds
Bahraini dinar 270 / 260
Barana 90 / 200
Barana (Mukammer) 250 / 220
Beans 230 / 180
Broad beans (green) 700 / 600
Cabbage 120 / 60
Carrot (yellow) 140 / 100
Cauliflower 140 / 100
Chestnuts 750 / 700
Cucumber (large) 100 / 60
Cucumber (small) 240 / 180
Eggplant (large) 100 / 50
Eggplant (small) 80 / 40
Garlic (w/o leaves) 480 / 450
Grapes (white) 400 / 350
Juvas 350 / 300

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman civil defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Unit 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Juweishah 770733
Ambulance 193, 771111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 633041
Blood bank 778303
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 622050-3
Police rescue 192, 62111, 63703
Police headquarters 639141
Traffic police 8963901
Electric Power Co. 6363814, 624881
Municipal water complaints 771258
Juweishah Int. Airport (08) 5333060

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6
Akhil Maternity, J. Amn. 644241/2
Jabel Amman Maternity 636140
Malhas, J. Amman 6641714
Shamsiyyah Hospital 6693131
University Hospital 8458435
Al-Musannab Hospital 6672719
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/57
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Islamic, Al-Musannab 777101/3
Al-Badr, J. Ashrafiah 777111/26
Army, Marja 891611/5

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Ali Zumaili 667753
Dr. Sa'ad Haddadin 657225
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Khalaf pharmacy 778633
Fifth Circle pharmacy 813141
J. Al-Nasser pharmacy 772879
Hamaia pharmacy 98437

TAISS:
Kayali taxi 623715
Grand Palace taxi 667079
Medical City taxi 813813
Nelli taxi 644433
Sahra taxi 622347
Tall taxi 625021

IRBID:
Dr. Lawrence Badr 243338

ZAR JA:
Dr. Natalie Jaqsoh (New Zarqa)

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19
Radio Jordan 774111/19
Hotel of Tourism 642511
Hotel complaints 661112
Phone complaints 661112
Telephone Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Postcards call 17
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Apple 150 / 300
Mallow 300 / 200
Marrow (small) 50 / 30
Marrow (large) 100 / 60
Olive (green) 580 / 500
Cabbage (dry) 320 / 280
Okra 250 / 200
Orange (Abu sara) 250 / 300
Orange (Shamouda) 280 / 250
Parsley 80 / 50
Pepper (sweet) 240 / 200
Pepper (hot) 140 / 100
Potatoes 250 / 200
Radishes 180 / 150
Spinach 180 / 150
Tomatoes 180 / 150

Home news

Politicians, leading figures call for new approach to education to reverse 'deteriorating standards'

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prominent politicians, educationalists and intellectuals have concluded that the country's educational system is deteriorating and that a new, clear and precise educational strategy to suit the current socio-economic and political needs of the Kingdom is the best remedy.

These views were presented and discussed on Sunday at a one-day seminar entitled "Jordan's past, present and aspirations in education, economics and politics," which was organised by the Arab Women's College Graduates (AWCG) in cooperation with Yarmouk University.

The participants' views on Jordan's educational policy and status were best summarised by Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad who said: "Our educational system is not a patchwork. What we need is a new, comprehensive and grass-root level educational policy and philosophy capable of responding to the socio-economic changes."

During Sunday's session, participants were engaged in a series of heated debates as they discussed the set-backs in Jordan's educational system, policy and curriculum, the impact of schools, community colleges and universities on students' literacy and creative thinking and whether the Kingdom needs a fourth private university.

Participants concluded that "a lot needs to be incorporated into Jordan's educational policy, educational institutions and curriculum" and they ruled out any justification for the establishment of a fourth university.

Two-shift system

Participants also agreed that the two-shift teaching system practised in government and United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) schools needs an urgent solution since this system has affected the quality of students and their academic preparation. They called on the government to review the curriculum, teachers' salary standards and vocational standards and they stressed that a new educational policy needs to be implemented in order to outline the country's future educational needs and philosophies, especially since one million Jordanians are attending schools and higher education institutions.

Educationalists also described the establishment of a fourth university as a "national threat," since the three existing universities have to some extent failed to graduate the manpower needed for Jordan's rapid development.

These serious remarks emerged when participants were discussing two papers on Jordan's past and present educational development and future educational aspirations which were presented by Under Secretary at the Ministry of Higher Education Ahmad Al Tal and Dean of Higher Studies at the University of Jordan Abdul Rahman Addas.

Both researchers pointed out the various socio-economic and political factors which have influenced the country's educational system from 1921 until the present. The papers concluded that the British mandate had hindered Jordan's educational progress and had drawn up a system in accordance with British. They noted that the British did not introduce any means of raising public thought, intellect and awareness fearing that mass enlightenment would stir the public and eventually this step would threaten their presence. After 1950, there were numerous political movements which affected students' ideals and rendered schools as meeting places for political movements. But when His Majesty King Hussein banned all political parties in 1957, the educational standard started to move on more

stable tracks as King Hussein decided to give education due attention.

The research papers also mentioned the effect of the 1950 East and West union as a positive step, to alter the educational system from "knowledge stuffing" to raising public awareness as they said. West Bankers were more open towards education and its role due to political, historical and geographical factors. As the educational policy started to get strengthened and to improve, the aftermath of the 1967 war created a crisis since more than 400,000 Palestinians were displaced and arrived in Jordan. The Ministry of Education decided to implement a double-shift educational system at its schools as well as UNRWA schools in order to accommodate the unprecedented increase in the number of students. This system has continued and according to both papers, "it has affected the quality of students since it failed to give due attention to the needs of each individual and thus the quality dropped while the quantity increased."

Higher education

Dr. Addas' paper also mentioned the role of the three universities, the 50 community colleges and the schools in-forming students' academic and personal abilities.

He concluded that although students graduate from higher educational institutions, they lack a lot of basic and practical experience to make them capable of dealing with the labour market's manpower requirements. "These higher education institutions have produced photo-copied and identical products which need a lot of practical experience," the paper said.

Dr. Addas' paper also stressed that the current educational curriculum and policy needed to be reviewed since they do not encourage scientific research, they depend on memorisation and block the way for any creative thinking and initiative. Also, the current status of teachers needs to be improved by raising teachers' salaries and offering them better living conditions, it added. Dr. Addas also referred to teachers instructing at community colleges and universities and said that some of them lack experience.

According to one observer attending the deliberations, "Jordan's educational policy needs to be adjusted as soon as possible in order to avert the current educational standard from further collapse."

Truancy

Participants urged the government and the Ministry of Education to tackle the problem of student truancy, which has risen to 23 per cent, and to solve the double-shift system.

Former Minister of Education Zoukair Al Hindawi said that the double-shift system was a "creative solution to solve the 1967 problem when classes were overcrowded with West Bank students. Now that the problem has been solved, I believe that some administrative procedures need to be changed before the ministry can think of a one-shift system in its schools."

Dr. Khalil Al Salem, a senator and prominent Jordanian economist and former Central Bank of Jordan governor, urged the government to tackle the issue of double-shifts and said: "The quantitative educational expansion has adversely affected the system's qualitative expansion. Students attend government schools for three hours a day per-shift and have no time to interact with their schoolmates or teachers. Hence, schools have lost their personality development value and are a place for educational assignments and memorisation." He also said that any attempt to review the educational policy and philosophy should consider equalising both

the quantitative and qualitative expansion in education.

Dr. Salem also recommended that an immediate solution to truancy be found as 23 per cent of Jordan's estimated one million students regularly fail to attend classes.

Director of Education at the Ministry of Education Dr. Izzat Jaradat expressed hope that this problem would be solved very soon.

'Failure to meet students' needs'

Participants concurred that the current educational policy, and curriculum fail to address students' psychological and physiological needs. They also said "the arbitrary secondary, community colleges and university exams fail to assess students' academic abilities since they call for memorisation and neglect to encourage the students' academic creativity and research motivation."

The situation of teachers in schools and higher education establishments should be reviewed since the expansion in quantitative education minimised specialised academic expertise, participants said.

Dr. Jaradat commented that the government has given due attention to the educational concept, has tried to upgrade the curriculum and to raise teachers' academic abilities. He added that the government has recently introduced computer studies as a new subject in government schools. "We are also considering the academic depth in our educational policy rather than keeping it the way it stands," he said.

Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran, who said that good students are the products of good teachers, also stressed that educational standards in the past were much better than at the present. "What we need is to well-developed and successful students who are directly linked with the country's development needs," added Dr. Badran.

Questioning the current educational system and its previous effectiveness, he said: "Jordan and China's educational experiences kicked off together. But where have the Chinese reached and where is Jordan standing at the present? Why is Jordan's socio-economic development in a backward stage?"

Dr. Fahed Al Fanek, a leading economist, stated that Jordan's educational staff aim to graduate students who refer to their past rather than facing the future challenges. "The educational system is the only means to make us capable of approaching the year 2000 and further into the future," Dr. Fanek said.

Educational standards

Dr. Hindawi contested that the educational standard had not deteriorated but that Jordan needs to formulate a new educational philosophy in order to outline its future educational needs and aspirations.

Mr. Husni Fareez, a seasoned intellectual and columnist, stressed that although there are one million students attending educational institutions, not all of them have reached academic excellence and an equal standard. He added that students at private institutions are more outstanding than students from public institutions.

Participants also concluded that the current educational philosophy and policy needs to be re-evaluated to suit modern times, and to address the society's socio-economic and political needs.

Dr. Assad said that Jordan should define what to expect from its educational policy before it embarks on finding ways to review it. "Do we want a policy that only addresses the country's socio-economic needs or do we want a policy that stresses both the qualitative and quantitative expansion in education," the minister asked.



Nassereddin Al Assad



Ahmad Al Tal

Dr. Assad pointed out prior to the deliberations that his viewpoints reflect his personal opinion and not the government's stand. He said: "Jordan has education, but it lacks a solid educational policy and goals which it aims to achieve." Dr. Assad said that previous and current educational policies were laid down by a number of Jordanian people who considered the country's creed and its social needs and therefore any new policy should be "flexible and able to address future challenges."

'No need for fourth university'

Participants also debated the justifications for the establishment of a new and fourth private university. This idea generated great opposition and was best expressed in Dr. Addas' paper, which said that "a precondition for the establishment of a new university should be a promise that it will use different and more up to date educational techniques and evaluation so it would be a university which differ from the three already existing universities."

Dr. Badran was the first to put the case of the Jordanian universities and said: "Our academic institutions have excelled and each student costs the government between JD 1,600 and JD 2,000 per academic year."

Dr. Salem then requested that the current educational policy should be reviewed and corrected. "I hope that our keenness to draw up a new policy will not distract us from trying to solve the current educational set-backs," Dr. Salem stressed.

Mrs. Muna Shukar, a participant, said that the country's policies have always been linked with the officials' mood and interests. Some of the other participants also contended that the lack of political freedom has to some extent limited the educational policy from playing a larger role in mass enlightenment.

Mr. Nahed Hattar, a member of the Jordanian Writers Association, said that the country's present educational policy is limited to the needs of the political and economic systems which require the employee to work rather than to question the kind of work he is doing. "This means that the government is trying to keep the population uninvolved in its policy by prohibiting public participation in decision making," Mr. Hattar said, and "therefore we import foreign expertise who do their jobs without questioning the country's needs and aspirations."

Mr. Hattar said that political parties help citizens to see things more clearly and to build their independent personalities.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet okays \$25m loan accord

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet has approved a \$25 million loan agreement with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The loan will be allocated for financing low-income housing projects.

Kayed confers with Egyptian minister

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Interior Hassan Al Kayed conferred in his office Tuesday with visiting Egyptian Minister of State for Immigration and Egyptian Expatriates Affairs William Najib Seifein. They discussed issues pertaining to Egyptian workers employed in Jordan. The Egyptian minister met with Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and Minister of Labour Khaled Al Haj Hassan Monday to discuss issues related to the employment of Egyptian workers.

More recruits end People's Army course

SALT (Petra) — Another batch of recruits trained to serve in the People's Army graduated Tuesday after completing training at Salt, Fuhais and Baqa'a centres. The graduates presented a performance of various skills in first aid, fire fighting and rescue operations. At the end of the ceremony the commander of the People's Army distributed certificates to the graduates.

Fire causes slight damage to Karak court

AMMAN (Petra) — A large fire broke out at the first instance court in Karak which is located within a complex of government departments. A spokesman for the Civil Defence Department said that five court officials were slightly injured as a result of jumping from higher floors. Preliminary investigations indicated that the fire was accidentally caused by a cigarette end, the spokesman said. He added that the fire caused slight material damage.

Danish milk expert to assist factories

AMMAN (Petra) — The Danish government will send an expert in dairy processing to Jordan to offer expertise in the production, preservation and quality control of milk in Jordan. The expert will be employed on the job for two months, according to a Health Ministry spokesman. The spokesman said that Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh and the Danish ambassador in Amman have discussed the subject of sending the expert to Jordan.

Team to study village council proposals

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Hmoud has given his consent for the establishment of a committee to tour villages around the country to research public opinion about the setting up of councils in their villages. A statement said that the committee members will be visiting Sma Al Russan, Tibneh, Husseinieh, Jadideh, Kathraba, Abu Nusair, Za'atari and Baida.

Irbid office issues 213 work permits

IRBID (Petra) — The employment department in Irbid issued 213 work permits to non-Jordanian workers in the past month, according to the department's director Abdul Aziz Al Shukh: He said that the department also found work for 60 out of 84 Jordanian workers who applied for jobs during November. Mr. Shukh also said that the department's inspection teams visited 131 institutions and found four of them to be committing labour law violations during the past month.

Zarqa's new municipal committee announces development programme

ZARQA (Petra) — Zarqa Municipality's current budget is JD 4 million and allocations have been made to carry out public services and improvements to the town's utilities, according to the head of the new municipality committee Badri Bahaudin.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Bahaudin said that the present committee, which took over the task of handling the municipality's affairs on Nov. 24, will carry out projects drawn up by the previous committee and will pay back a debt of JD 286,000 over the coming five years.

The municipality has allocated JD 35,000 for eliminating rodents, JD 200,000 to purchase land for building a civil defence centre, and JD 400,000 for opening and asphalted roads in the city. Mr. Bahaudin said.

He continued that other projects include JD 200,000 for purchasing vehicles, JD 45,000 for installing traffic lights, JD 240,000 for setting up a public building for the municipality's facilities, JD 132,000 for building a laboratory and JD 15,000 for the construction of a slaughter house.

The new committee, comprising 12 members, will carry on with projects already started by the previous committee such as building roads, bridges and car parks, and carrying out cleaning-up campaigns, and building a cemetery.

The cabinet appointed the new committee to replace one chaired by the governor of Zarqa, and which ran the city's affairs for nearly two years. The committee represents major ethnic, religious and tribal groupings in the second biggest city in Jordan.

The last time municipal elections held in Zarqa was in 1979.

Regional seminar urges Arab investment in feed production

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-day regional seminar on the processing of poultry feed in the Arab World ended its meetings in Amman Tuesday with call on Arab investors and Arab development funds to finance the cultivation of fodder and oil-producing crops in a bid to promote the endeavour for ensuring food security in the Arab World.

The seminar, organised by the Amman-based Regional Poultry Training and Development Centre in the Near East, was attended by delegates from various Arab countries.

The delegates' final statement urged Arab governments to give more attention to the cultivation of high-grade protein crops and to give proper attention to the processing of protein-rich animal feed concentrates. They also suggested the establishment of modern laboratories for analysing animal feed at various research centres and universities involved in the production of animal feed.

The statement urged all such centres to use computers in the processing of fodder and to keep up with world technological developments. The seminar called on

Arab governments to subsidise the production and marketing of agricultural products and to contribute towards Arab agricultural integration.

The seminar also called on Arab countries to make available storage facilities for animal feed and to encourage the exchange of visits by specialists from countries in the Near East region. It also urged Arab countries to draw up specifications and metrology for poultry feed and the production of layers and broilers.

The Amman-based centre was established with financial help from the Italian government. Courses scheduled for 1986 include training in mid-level poultry farm operations designed to improve the management and techniques of poultry foremen and technicians and two professional-level offerings in feed analysis and quality control and poultry production and management.

The goals of the centre are to increase food security and improve nutrition by providing fully-qualified personnel to manage the development of the poultry and egg industry in the Near East region.

ARAB ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES COMPANY

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Manufacturers who wish to participate in bidding for the supply and erection of any of the above packages should apply in writing, within one month of the date of this publication, for information concerning prequalification procedures from:-

Arab Engineering Industries Company, PO Box 141101, Tel: 819101, Tlx: 23870, Amman, Jordan.

**GENERAL MANAGER
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Reflections on new era

AS WE prepare to enter a new era in which much of the future of the Middle East will be decided, there is only a short period of time left for reflection and contemplation on the kind of future we want and desire.

The peace process that was being engineered and preferred until recently no longer sounds feasible or useful. Major players have changed, consequently outlooks; the reality on the ground has shifted rapidly and is fast becoming uncertain and unfamiliar; the rush for higher states and the race for time and history are as strong as ever; the times are hard and the going is tough.

Things are also different in that the time for choosing is closing in on us: In a short while from now there may no longer be any choices. A new wave of uncertainty is gripping the whole area — the question now is: where do we stand today, and where are we heading?

Jordan and Jordanians are for peace. So are the Palestinians and the majority of the Arabs. But what kind of peace is there to offer, and is the other side, namely the Israelis, ready for it?

The "national unity" government in Israel, regardless and despite of whatever disagreements there are in the Arab camp, is in no condition to make peace with us. Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin dangle the hope of peace, but they and their party are not ready to make any real concessions for it. Shamir and Sharon are different. All they want is an incontestable victory which will fulfil their dream of "Eretz Israel" and consign all its enemies to perdition.

Israel's American benefactors are not much better. They do not want to lose Peres and are not ready to share the responsibility for peace in this area with the Soviets. To them, Arab rights are not as important as keeping Peres in power, and the exclusion of the Soviet Union from peacekeeping efforts is about the most important achievement they can hope to make from their present policies.

This is a bleak picture for Middle East peace prospects, but one that has to be reflected on and contemplated if we are to hit target in our course for the future.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: A fabricated story

IT is a well known fact that Israel and the United States are allies and that both work along the lines of the same strategy to serve the same goals and objectives. Therefore, it is quite hard for us to believe the espionage episode which was reported by the two allies. It is easier to consider the whole affair as a fabricated story designed to deceive the outside world. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz announced that Washington has accepted the Israeli government's apology over the affair and added that Tel Aviv and Washington will try to maintain stronger relations in the future. As we said it is hard to believe the episode, due to lack of evidence but still we can point to the fact that this affair clearly reflects the nature of Zionism which is based on the principle of "the end justifies the means." The Zionists, for the sake of achieving their objectives, do anything and commit any crime. Britons and Arabs suffered from Zionist terrorism and crimes during the British mandate in Palestine because the Zionists always considered themselves right whenever they did immoral actions which served their movement.

Al Dustour: Calling on the EEC

WITH the convening of a summit meeting by the leaders of the European Community in Luxembourg our hopes are increasing that such summit will contribute effectively towards the resolution of the Middle East problem or at least find a way to help solve this chronic issue. These leaders have on their minds, many problems including the economic crisis within the community and the challenge posed to their countries by the addition of two new members: Spain and Portugal. But it is hoped that the Middle East will acquire a very important part of their discussions in view of the proximity of the Middle East region to Europe and in the light of the many interests the Europeans have with the Arab states. The Middle East question has acquired the European Community's attention over the past years and the community's leaders issued several declarations on their countries' stand most of which were positive. We hope that Europe will put its weight behind the Arab peace plan and the Amman accord between Jordan and the PLO with the purpose of giving further impetus to the peace process.

Sawt Al Shaab: Calling for economic reforms

JORDAN is now facing increased pressure to reduce its public expenditure and to find a way of cutting down on unemployment. This country is facing the prospect of either continuing government subsidy on fuel or finding solutions to other pressing problems like unemployment. The treasury's income is receding all the time and the demands for more projects and public services are increasing. The government spent JD 300 million over the past five years to subsidise fuel, but it seems that this cannot go on unchecked for ever. Jordan witnessed years of economic boom in the 1970s but during that decade its people carried out numerous projects and also became accustomed to excessive spending. Things have to be changed and resolutions must be taken now if we are to effectively tackle our real problems. At the same time it has become incumbent on us to rearrange and reorganise our systems with the purpose of maximising production with as little cost as possible so that we can compete in markets abroad and sell our products.

Arabs in Israel — Affiliations and aspirations

By Dr. Sami Merali

THE Israeli Arabs' supposed move towards extremism has been a frequent subject of discussion among scholars and members of the establishment. In the past few years, the arguments regarding "extremism" have often stemmed from a certain kind of political and intellectual activity, or attempts to justify the manipulation of and the imposition of "iron fist" authority upon Arab Israeli citizens. At this point the intellectual justification and the political purpose converge and a vicious cycle ensues, laying the purportedly scientific groundwork of anti-democratic argument, through research based on falsified, distorted data.

The overwhelming majority of Arabs recognise and accept the State of Israel: those who voted for Rakah (the Israeli Communist Party), the Progressive State for Peace, or the Zionist lists, did so as a specific act of recognition of the State. They wanted to influence domestic and foreign policy through active participation in the Israeli democratic process — namely, voting in the Knesset elections.

What really has happened to the Israeli Arabs in the past decade is that their Arab-Palestinian identity, as well as their status as citizens of Israel, have been reconstituted. Furthermore, an intense awareness and an open and positive declaration of this identity has been developing, in contrast with the obvious hesitation of previous years. By its very nature, such consciousness has led to vociferous and persistent demands for more equality between Arabs and Jews in Israel. There is no extremism here, aimed at undermining the existence of the State of Israel, nor any expression of anti-Jewish or anti-humanist thought. On the other hand, we are witnessing the deepening of civic and political consciousness, which in turn leads to increased activity in order to exert influence — through legitimate, legal, and accepted means — on the immediate environment, the State, and the region in which we live.

Large segments of the Jewish sector — individuals, political groups, and the establishment, or at least part of it — have been unduly worried by this conscious arousal and subsequent political

activity.

It is important to emphasise that the Palestinians are entitled to a sovereign state of their own, just as the Jews are. This is the basic right of any nation. The Palestinians are also victims of history. They were exiled, slaughtered, and persecuted. And this has remained their lot to this day. This nation not only has the right, but the moral obligation to fight for self-determination, as does any other nation.

The question as to the identity of the Palestinians is often posed. Does such a national group exist? It is relatively simple to answer once we become determined to rid ourselves of those irrational fears and attitudes which lie at the heart of our denial of the existence of another nation. Did the Jews wait until others agreed to form a nation? The contrary is true. They felt decided, and expressed their national particularity unconcerned with the opinions and feelings of others. Yes — the Palestinians are also a nation with a tradition, culture, history, language, and a deep affinity to a specific homeland. Most important of all, there is an awareness of this, which is constantly being renewed, and is open-

ly expressed by the Palestinians themselves. This consciousness is the decisive factor in answering the question "who is a Palestinian?" as it is for any other nation.

By an irony of fate, both the Jews and the Palestinian Arabs claim the same homeland for themselves. This land is poor, small, and cannot hope to satisfy the broad geographical needs of both nations, let alone each nation separately. For all intents however, both peoples do live there. This co-existence is not symmetrical, but rather characterised by conditions of ruler and ruled (Israel and the Occupied Territories).

The solution lies in the continued existence of each nation within the framework of its own political entity, with neither endangering the other. Should this co-existence be helped in the future by gradual, maximum cooperation, then so much the better. This then is the position of the majority of if not all, Israeli Arabs today. Many Jews, both individuals and groups, have adopted the same position. Common ideological ground is to be found here which can unite both sectors in the fulfilment of mutually agreed-

upon goals. Other issues also find Jews and Arabs united — for example, the social ideals of democracy and self-rule. Lately, certain personalities and various groups have advocated the adoption of "Zionist" democracy, which by definition allows that only those identifying with the Zionist consensus should benefit from democracy, education, and other rights. Adherents of this reasoning should be asked how they would react should a state with a Christian majority impose a democracy that denied the rights of Jews. Would they accept the concept of democracy for whites only in the United States, or the rule of apartheid in South Africa?

The danger here is not only social and cultural, but political. Its origin lies in irrational and existential anxiety. But when the argumentation turns ideological, it automatically shifts from its deep psychological base (generally unconscious) and takes on the nature of an overall concept which seeks and finds strange justification for itself.

Those who are active in propagating such anti-democratic ideas not only endanger the humanistic image of the State, but

undermine its very existence both physically and morally. Above all, it is the citizens of Israel who are harmed. The Arabs may be the first victims, but should this process continue, it would destroy all that is good and flourishing in Israeli society.

In the struggle for democracy, for equality and just rule, there is a wide area open for Jewish-Arab cooperation in Israel. Such ideas can unite both sides in the effort to ensure a better spiritual and material quality of life.

Israeli Arabs have not turned extremist. They have discovered that they are a social and political force within the state. As Israelis, their activity is directed at improvement and change, at implementing the interwoven ideals of democracy, equality and peace, and at being both relevant and meaningful in the society in which they live. This effort is being carried out in close cooperation with many Jews — Israel and Palestine Political Report.

Dr. Merali, a Palestinian of Israeli nationality, is a lecturer at Haifa University.

Japanese premier marks third anniversary in power

By Patrick Massey
Reuters

TOKYO — Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone last Wednesday observed the anniversary of three years in power which have stamped him as one of Japan's most powerful post-war leaders and raised the country's profile as an ally of the West.

"Three years? Is it really that long?" Nakasone murmured to reporters enquiring how he felt. "I am most grateful to everybody who helped me."

Since coming to office in November 1982, Nakasone has adopted a style which in Japanese terms amounts to positive brashness, a distinct break with the old pattern of cautious, conservative, consensus-minded politicians who have run Japan for most of the time since World War II.

This style, in the view of many political experts, has not endeared him to the old guard of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) which is used to decisions being made in leisurely private meetings of party elders.

Nakasone has adopted two methods of speeding up this process to reach his goals.

One is by direct appeal through the media, by television appearances and interviews to project his policies straight at the people.

Another device with which Nakasone bypasses inner-party deliberations is the appointment of expert private committees which tend to come up with views that match his own.

One such case was the committee that recommended scrapping the nine-year-old, self-imposed rule that kept defence spending to within one per cent of gross national product (GNP).

Nakasone had long made clear his eagerness to comply with U.S. demands that Japan, as the second richest non-Communist nation, should carry a commensurate share of defence burdens in an area of growing Soviet military power.

An outright move to scrap the one per cent limit foundered within the LDP. Too many members balked at offending pacifist feelings, which have run deep in Japan since the war.

Nakasone adopted an alternative tack, pushing through approval for a five-year budget which could in theory at some time pay the one per cent limit depending on the performance of the GNP figures.

At the same time treasury officials devised new ways of computing GNP which made it seem unlikely the limit would be breached.

In diplomacy, too, Nakasone

has achieved a far higher profile than most post-war Japanese premiers. His "Ron-Yasu" relationship with President Reagan earned great attention in the media. His support for Western policies in general has been less equivocal than that of most of his predecessors.

He inherited the problem of trade friction, an issue which has mounted steadily in importance as Japan's surplus with the United States climbed towards an expected \$50 billion for the current year.

Nakasone's ministers introduced a series of market-opening measures and he went on television to export Japanese to be more trade-minded — an appeal that so far does not appear to have been greatly heeded.

Although some of his policies, including the defence issue, are not generally popular, Nakasone himself has registered consistently high personal ratings in public opinion polls.

At the end of the summer break in politics, Nakasone began issuing discreet signals that he might be willing to stand for a third two-year term in office.

Under present LDP rules this is not permitted. It would require a majority party decision to change the rule and some LDP leaders have made plain they would oppose it.

Few commentators are eager to forecast how Nakasone will fare in the 12 months before the LDP must again vote for a leader, a post which confers automatic premiership due to the party's pre-dominance in parliament.

A key factor is what will happen to the heavy influence which used to be wielded by former premier Kakuei Tanaka, long known as the kingmaker of Japanese politics. Illness took Tanaka off the political scene last February and there are strong doubts that he will ever return to it.

Support of the large Tanaka faction within the LDP has long been essential for any aspiring prime minister. Nakasone's is the smallest of the four LDP factions and it will need adroit political juggling to line up sufficient support for another spell in office.

Fundamentally, Nakasone derives his power from right-wing nationalist elements of the LDP. This is sometimes seen in incidents such as his controversial visit last August to the Yasukuni shrine where war dead are honoured as gods. He dropped plans for a second visit after a storm of criticism in China.

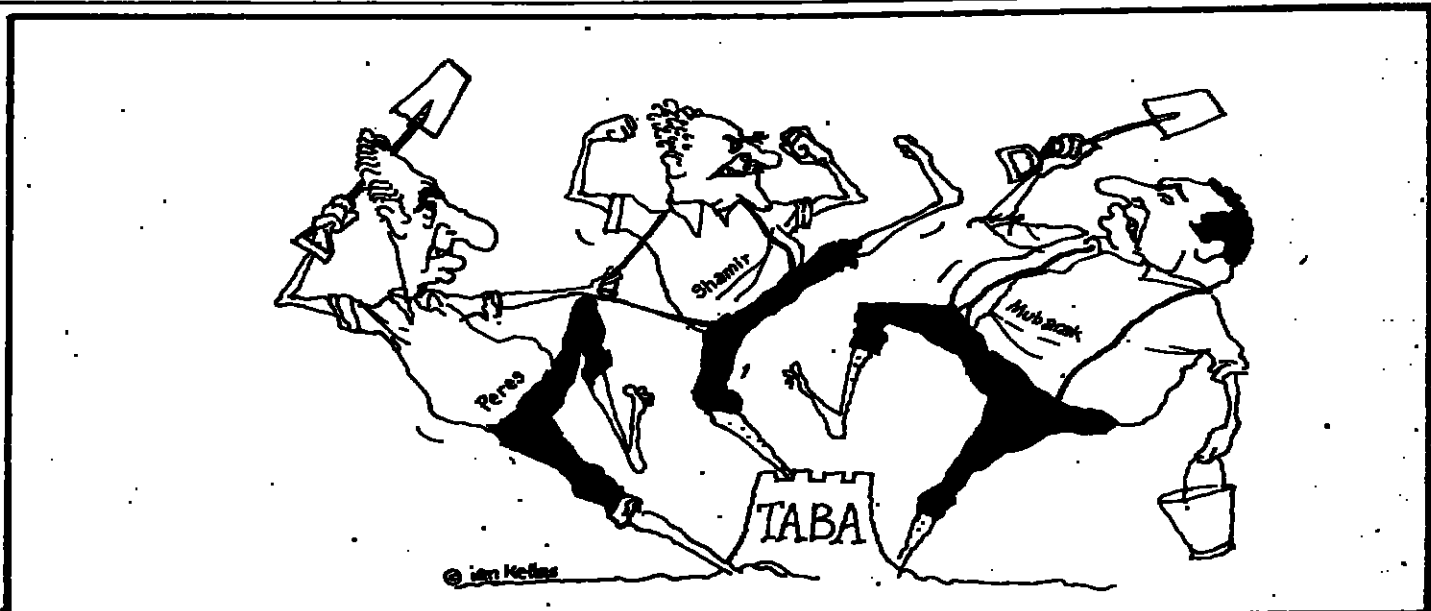
In general, Nakasone wants Japan to stop apologising for World War II. In his own words he wants to see "a general settlement of post-war political accounts."

Sinister statistics

Novosti

WASHINGTON — R. Seward, director of World Priorities, has released a report on the world's military spending. The report says the world today spends on military purposes up to 800,000 million dollars a year. The stockpiled arms could annihilate 58,000 million people, or 12 times the world's population. At present,

there is one soldier per 43 persons, and one doctor per 1,030 persons in the world. The document points out that, if the cost of an average car would have risen since World War II at the same rate at which the cost of arms has increased, the car would have now cost 300,000 dollars. In the last 40 years, the firepower of conventional armaments has grown 20-fold.



Spy case embarrasses Israel's friends in U.S.

AMMAN (J.T.) — The case of Jonathan Jay Pollard, the U.S. naval intelligence analyst accused of spying for Israel, was getting more bizarre, tragic and serious with every day's revelations last week, reported Wolf Blitzer of the Israeli newspaper 'The Jerusalem Post' from Washington. In his report, published Sunday, Blitzer said there could be little doubt that the spy case had become not only a source of major embarrassment to Israel and its supporters in the U.S., especially in the Jewish Community and in Congress, but also a potentially very damaging long-term element to the entire fabric of American-Israeli relations.

Following is the full text of his report which was filed the day before Israel publicly apologised to the U.S., and the apology accepted by Washington, over the Pollard case:

For many years, Israel's most active opponents in the U.S. have argued that Israel routinely spies on the U.S. Their allegations, which have never really been taken all that seriously by the public at large, have still developed into a sort of cottage industry with recent books on the subject being published by former Congressmen Paul Findley ('They Dare To Speak Out'), Stephen Green ('Taking Sides') and Michael Saba ('The Armageddon Network').

In the aftermath of the Pollard disclosures, Israel's opponents are now having a field day. "This is just the tip of the iceberg," Green said the other day in New York. Almost everyone in Washington agrees that things are clearly going to get worse for Israel unless the Israeli government quickly get its own act together. But unfortunately for Israel, U.S. officials have started to spread the word that Israel is actually stoic, unwilling, apparently refusing to fully cooperate with Washington in the investigation despite earlier promises to that effect.

The evidence released so far by U.S. governmental investigators, as presented in preliminary court hearings and in the news media, points directly to officials at the Israeli Embassy in Washington as having accepted hundreds of stolen documents, stamped "top secret," from Pollard.

ABC News on Wednesday identified Ilan Ravid, an embassy science attaché, as Pollard's alleged contact in Washington. Ravid and another Israeli science attaché at the consulate in New York, Yosef Yagur, suddenly flew back to Israel earlier this week. Their return home, widely reported in the U.S., dramatically added credibility to the allegations against Israel.

According to FBI special field agent Eugene Noltkamp's testimony on November 27 before Judge Patrick J. Attridge in U.S. District Court in Washington, Pollard, 31, has confessed to having been paid by his Israeli "controllers" \$2,500 a month for the

last year and a half.

During that period, the U.S. naval analyst also received two trips to Europe, the FBI agent said. He was accompanied by his wife, Anne Henderson-Pollard, on the second trip, which also included a stopover in Israel.

There has been widespread shock in Washington as the case has unfolded in recent days. For the most part, U.S. officials and others have expressed amazement that some Israeli officials had apparently authorised the payments to Pollard.

Whoever was responsible, these officials insist, should be severely punished for clearly going beyond the accepted standards of behaviour in intelligence collection between the two countries.

"Family just doesn't do this kind of thing," commented 'The Washington Times' in an editorial. President Ronald Reagan, also clearly puzzled, was quoted as having asked Secretary of State George Shultz: "Why are they doing this?"

Both sides, over the years, have snooped against each other. The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv simply assumed that Israeli intelligence is trying to intercept some of their communications — just as the Israeli Embassy in Washington makes the same assumption against the U.S. intelligence community. As 'The New York Times' reported on November 20, it is not all that unusual for close friends and allies to spy on each other in these kinds of ways.

'The Washington Post', in an editorial, also pointed out that it should not have come as a surprise that Israel was spying on the U.S. "No doubt, people consumed by the sense of living on a narrow security margin find it difficult to forgo an activity that they think might widen that margin," it said.

"For the purpose of espionage is not simply to keep an eye on one's enemies. It is to keep from being surprised, and one's friends can cause surprises no less disruptive — sometimes more so — than one's enemies," the editorial said. "As generous as the U.S. is to Israel, there cannot fail to be things the Israelis feel they could learn that would reduce still further the chance of someday being surprised."

The editorial continued: "It was precisely to reduce the chance of surprise, you will recall, that the U.S. dispatched the USS Liberty to spy electronically on Israel and the Arab combatants in the 1967 Middle East war. The Israelis shot up the ship in an incident the bad memory of which lingers still. But a prudent person has to hope that Washington did not then decide there was no further reason to keep an eye on Israel."

But what is very unusual in this Pollard case — and what clearly goes beyond the limits of the mutually-accepted and longstanding rules of the game — is the actual recruitment of and

payment to each other's intelligence agents. For years, both countries have abided by an agreement to bar such activities. Why risk the already very close military and intelligence cooperation that exists by going after the relatively more marginal details that are not officially shared?

That is why administration officials, congressmen and senators, American-Jewish leaders, journalists and many others are shaking their heads and asking how Israel could have been so "stupid" in using someone like Pollard to get sensitive intelligence information. Beyond the potential damage such an operation if detected could have on American-Israeli relations, they raised questions about Pollard's character.

The reports of Pollard's having bragged for more than a decade — since college — that he was working for the Mossad have been highly publicised in the American news media. His longtime friends and associates are widely quoted in the American press as depicting Pollard as a big mouth, who went out of his way to openly discuss his intelligence work only minutes after being introduced to someone at a cocktail party.

All of this certainly does not enhance the reputation of U.S. naval intelligence either. In Washington, people are wondering aloud how Pollard could have received top-secret U.S. security clearances, given his personality and his back-story.

ABC's diplomatic correspondent John Scally reported this week that Pollard was actually being considered to head U.S. naval intelligence's Middle East counter-terrorism desk.

On ABC's Nightline television programme on Wednesday, anchor-man Ted Koppel interviewed Admiral Bobby Inman — someone uniquely qualified to discuss the Pollard case. Inman is himself a former director of U.S. naval intelligence as well as the super-secret National Security Agency, which is charged with electronic interception, of communications and high-flying reconnaissance photography. Inman was the deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency during the first two years of the Reagan administration. Today he is in private business.

Inman's comments on the Pollard case were, therefore, fascinating and, as far as Israel was concerned, very disturbing.

In response to Koppel's questioning, for example, Inman simply took for granted that the allegations against Israel were accurate. He expressed disappointment that Israeli intelligence officials had picked someone as loud and obnoxious as Pollard as their spy. This decision, he said, was not a "professional" as he would have expected from the Israelis — to hire someone as "boastful" as Pollard. There was "a lack of wisdom," as far as the

Israeli "choice of talent" was concerned.

Inman, who acknowledged that U.S. naval intelligence also has plenty of room for embarrassment, was then asked why Israel would risk upsetting its generally cooperative relationship with the U.S. by recruiting an American spy who also happened to be Jewish. Disclosure, Inman officials must have assumed, would have damaged the situation of Jews in American society. Why risk that scenario?

Inman replied that the Israeli authorities probably concluded that "the desire to get their hands on specific kinds of information" might have made the operation worth the risk. He conceded that the U.S. already provides Israel with extensive information, especially involving the offensive military threats facing Israel.

But Washington often holds back in providing information to Israel which might be useful in enabling Israel to undertake pre-emptive attacks, he added. Pollard might have made such information available to Israel, he said, citing as an example information which could have helped Israel undertake pre-emptive strikes against PLO or other potential targets.

Asked whether the highest Israeli political leaders may not have known all of these specifics of the Pollard operation, Inman said that was "entirely plausible." Sometimes political leaders want to be spared the exact identities of agents to be in a position to deny any knowledge of them later. Prime Minister Peres, he said, "might not have known" of Pollard's case.

But Inman insisted that it was "unlikely" that high Israeli political officials did not know that their people in Washington were not simply relying on official liaisons to the U.S. intelligence community for important information. He noted that "even the closest of friends" sometimes become suspicious of each other.

Pollard, who sat silently during the 2½-hour hearing on Wednesday, allegedly received considerable financial payments from Israel for his work. But he has also been portrayed as an ardent Zionist, who honestly believed in what he was doing. His Israeli "handlers" — the term used by FBI agent Noltkamp — no doubt also thought they were doing a wonderful service for Israel.

But any short-term benefits that may have been achieved during the 18-month operation have clearly been more than lost by the current flap. Pollard and those Israeli officials who authorised the espionage channel have done some very serious damage to U.S.-Israeli relations. How quickly that can be repaired will largely depend on the response of the Israeli government in the next few days.

هكذا من الرجال

Money and heat leak out of Jordan's ill-fitting windows

By Josephine Zamanri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Heat loss from ill-fitting windows costs Jordan between JD 3-5 million per year, says Dr. Sayed Muaz of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS). "This is about 1.5 to 2.4 per cent of the cost of oil imports to Jordan based on 1983 figures," he adds.

In his recently completed study entitled "The Development of Window Performance for Energy Conservation," he and his team at the RSS examined all windows available on the Jordanian market for air permeability, water tightness, and wind resistance — the great energy thieves. The impetus for the study started with the national building code and the work was carried out in conjunction with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, says Dr. Muaz. The conclusions reached were interesting and the study established standards for the window industry in Jordan.

Around 90 per cent of all Jordan's window frames, or profiles as they are known by specialists, are constructed of aluminium, according to Dr. Muaz, four per cent from PVC material, and six per cent of either galvanised steel, regular steel or wood. Aluminium has certain advantages, as both Dr. Muaz and Karim Kammash, an architect working on the project, point out. It is relatively maintenance free, easy to install, its sliding properties save space and

its thin profiles allow an open and outward vision. However, aluminium windows were shown by the study to be the least energy efficient, allowing the greatest energy escape.

"Jordan spends an estimated JD 9.5 million per year on new windows," comments Dr. Muaz. Government directives on energy efficiency necessitated the setting of standards for the industry and using accepted international standards, an RSS committee agreed upon three window types for Jordan. "A is the lowest accepted limit with C the highest standard and B the medium," he adds.

Thorough tests

Using these international performance standards the RSS examined the profile mechanism or structure, workmanship and accessories used with the window such as brushes and insulating materials. Windows were classified by material — aluminium, PVC, galvanised steel, regular steel, or wood and method of opening — sliding, hinge type, pivoting, tilt and turn as well as glazing.

"We tested 26 samples," says Dr. Muaz, "using average air pressure based upon weather reports of the last thirty to fifty years recorded locally."

With around 700 factories producing aluminium windows, varying from quite sophisticated factories to tiny workshops plus the wide variety of both imported and

locally produced windows made of other materials, the samples tested by Dr. Muaz showed considerable variations. In a demonstration, Karim Kammash placed a typical aluminium-style window into the simulator. The results were typical of too many windows in Amman; with moderate water flow a trickle started under the sill and when air pressure was applied, water flowed with abandon under the window, and air bubbled out of joints and openings. "Definitely below class A," says Dr. Muaz.

"We took a typical dwelling, calculated energy loss from the floor, walls and windows as well as the roof and ceiling. Separately we calculated leakage through windows in an uninsulated house," says Dr. Muaz. Low performance windows indicated a six to ten per cent heat loss whilst in high performance, once energy escape was minimised to two to three per cent.

Even deducting ventilation loss, low performance windows still registered around 8.5 per cent energy escape whilst high performance windows showed 1.95 per cent loss. The least efficient windows were aluminium and sliding, the most efficient, PVC and hinged, he adds. Dr. Muaz points out that aluminium windows vary considerably in Jordan, with many companies innovating and updating their products and sometimes turning to the RSS for advice.

Now with specific standards

established for windows, any house builder can ask for a desired performance level and architects will now be able to indicate directly on plans specific window types. Any window performance, can be tested at the RSS, says Dr. Muaz. The cost is minimal, around JD 50 and he strongly advises builders to test. With newly-arrived equipment, windows can also be tested for energy efficiency on site.

With between JD 3-5 million wasted annually by low performance windows, it is important not only to adhere to standards for future window construction but to upgrade presently existing installations, he says. Dr. Muaz gives the example of the Jordan Electricity Authority headquarters at the Seventh Circle. "At the time of construction, we made some simple adjustments which would enable the building to halve its energy bill," he says.

Dr. Muaz points out that windows can not be installed then never maintained. The accessories require maintenance and weather strips must be kept in good condition to remain effective. He also adds that energy efficient windows mean less work for the housewife "as tightly closing windows allow little dust penetration."

The next steps for Dr. Muaz and his team will be an investigation of window profiles and the setting of standards for Jordan in this area. The team will also tackle window accessories — rubber, brushes and general hardware.

Transport development department plans to build three more interchanges in the near future

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Amman Transport Development Project (ATDP) is currently planning the construction of three interchanges at Firas Circle, Al Nasha Circle and the junction at Mahatta Street and Bassman Palace, an ATDP official said recently.

The three interchanges, expected to be launched in the near future at an estimated total cost of \$4 million, will be financed using part of a \$10 million World Bank loan which had been earmarked to finance construction work on the Sports City and Ministry of Interior Circles which started Oct. 19. "The ATDP has managed to save \$4 million out of the \$10 million World Bank loan allocated to finance the Ministry of Interior Circle and the Sports City Interchanges," Mr. Majed Al Nimri, director of the ATDP department at Amman Municipality said in a recent interview with the Jordan Times. "This \$4 million will be reallocated for the new projects since the company in charge of implementing the interchanges quoted us an excellent price," Mr. Nimri continued.

The project which involves the construction of overpasses and underpasses at the Ministry of Interior Circle and the Sports City junction and realigning the entrance of the Sports City is being implemented by Uttam Singh Dugal and Company of India, and the project is expected to be completed in 21 months. Mr. Nimri added that the feasibility study on the Ministry of Interior and the Sports City interchanges was conducted two years ago.

He said that the ATDP based the feasibility study on the traffic flow and motion on these major routes and intersections in relation to the number of daily cars who used these routes during peak periods. "We concluded that 6,000 cars were using these intersections daily during peak hours, while our statistical information indicated that 10,500 cars will be crossing these routes by the year 1995," Mr. Nimri said.

Feasibility study

Refuting public allegations that the feasibility study conducted to

assess the importance of carrying out construction work at these two interchanges was not justified he said: "If the study was not 100 per cent valid, both the World Bank

and the Amman Municipality would not have agreed to finance and to launch these interchange works."

Another opinion on the feasibility study was given by the head of the Traffic Engineering Department at Amman Municipality, Mr. Ahmad Al Armouti, who added: "We also considered the air and noise pollution which was caused by cars standing idle for some time during the daily traffic congestion on these intersections."

Mr. Armouti, who is in charge of executing the construction work on the interchanges and the field operations, also said that the public will be relieved from traffic congestion at these intersections for the coming 100 years, the average life-span of any bridge.

In addition to causing initial public confusion and bottlenecks, the construction work on the two interchanges reportedly caused economic set-backs to a number of business establishments in the areas but both Mr. Armouti and Mr. Nimri commented that a project as huge as this will have to affect some people. Nevertheless, when it is completed, it will benefit 750,000 people, both pointed out.

Both officials also said that Amman Municipality could not afford to buy iron bridges to be used as substitutes around the work areas, which had been sealed off to traffic. "It was too expensive an idea to acquire temporary iron bridges, since each one would have cost the municipality \$1 million," Mr. Armouti said. Mr. Armouti said that Amman Municipality could also not afford to buy extra pieces of land surrounding the sealed off area due to a lack of funds.

Mr. Nimri said that 90 per cent of the diverted routes will remain the same throughout the two years of construction and the other 10 per cent of the routes will change as the construction process becomes more complex.

The two-year intersections project involves three stages: The first phase entails laying all the infrastructure including electric cab-



A driver ignores a detour sign during the first few days after the Ministry of Interior Circle and the Sports City Interchange were closed for the construction of the overpasses (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

les, telephone lines and water and sewerage networks and this will last for three months, following which the digging will start to lay the foundations for bridges and the tunnels.

Infrastructure work

Mr. Nimri said that the infrastructure work is being carried out slowly but efficiently and accurately to avoid any problems.

The Jordan Electric Authority (JEA), the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) and the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) have assigned subcontractors to work under their supervision during the infrastructure phase. "This means that each sub-contractor would work within his field of specialisation and this would eliminate technical problems and failures," Mr. Nimri said.

In reply to complaints voiced by some residents living in the areas sealed off to traffic who said that

nothing much has been done as far as the laying of infrastructures is concerned and that workers work only one shift per day, Mr. Nimri said: "One cannot build the house's roof, without laying accurate and strong infrastructure. I am sure that the number of work shifts will be increased to two or probably three once the project's work tend to become more complex."

A lot of people remain pessimistic that the construction work will be completed during 21 months and argue that earlier work on interchanges was never completed on time but Mr. Nimri said: "If things keep proceeding the way they are, the interchanges will be completed in 21 months. I do not see why we have to bear with such pessimism if previous companies, who were in charge of constructing other interchanges in Amman, could not complete their tasks on time."

British volunteers offer care, love to Jordan's handicapped

By Olga Mikhalev
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — One cannot help but be attracted to their smiling faces, their enthusiasm for work and their commitment to offer their capabilities and concern, care and love to 'handicapped' children. These people are the British volunteers working among the mentally and physically handicapped children. These people are the British volunteers working among the mentally and physically handicapped children in Jordan.

Four young men and seven young women aged between 18 and 19 are helping handicapped children and teaching them how to take care of themselves. The British volunteers are working in four different institutions in Jordan: the Mental House Society, the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf in Salt, the Swedish Relief Organisation and the Home of Hope. The British volunteer effort in Jordan is part of England's Project Trust, which aims to educate a new generation in Britain to understand life outside Europe, particularly in less developed countries.

Project Trust was established in the Isle of Coll in 1967 by Mr. and Mrs. Maclean Bristol. During the past 19 years the project has sent young people overseas to spend their time between secondary school and university or employment doing useful volunteer work.

World-wide scheme

Volunteers from all over Britain are participating in programmes in Australia, Central America and the Caribbean, East Africa, India and Sri Lanka, the Middle East, South Asia and Southern Africa. Project Trust's administrators claim this experience will give the young people a constructive outlet for their idealism and a chance to develop qualities of self reliance and responsibility as well as an opportunity to see how other communities live and work.

Mrs. Maclean Bristol, the founder and administrator of the trust project, explained during her visit to Jordan last week that the basic object is to place volunteers where they are needed. "We think we have to keep our pattern to work with the handicapped in Jordan because it is the field where help is needed most," she said.

Mrs. Bristol added that Project Trust has sent 1,500 volunteers to 34 countries all over the world. "This year we have 135 volunteers in 14 different countries, with the largest group in Kenya" she said.

Project Trust offer four types of services: teaching assistance, social services, outdoor instructors and adventure.

The teacher assistance project helps students at schools in Africa, Asia and Central America, while the service project aims at looking after children in homes in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

The outdoor instructors and adventure projects aim at helping people at field centres and work on sheep and cattle stations in countries such as Hong Kong and Australia.

Mrs. Bristol explained that all projects are carefully examined by



Pre-school handicapped children help each other tie their shoelaces (File photo)

the Trust's staff or by its representatives overseas. She added that the selection of volunteers is also considered very carefully.

"Around 2,000 young people apply every year to Project Trust, out of which we select 180 and interview them in order to select the final 130 volunteers," Mrs. Bristol said.

She highlighted the fact that it is important to choose the right candidates because any mismatch between project and volunteer can produce a frustrated and disillusioned volunteer and disillusions among those they are supposed to help.

Fund raising

Project Trust is non-governmental, non-sectarian org-

anisation. It raises funds by donation and sponsorships from various companies and charitable trusts. Mrs. Bristol explained that many people in England have helped potential volunteers to raise the cost of sending them overseas.

"Volunteers must have the determination to find their own sponsors to raise at least one third of their travel cost," she added.

Dealing with handicapped children is not easy, one needs to have experience and patience. But according to Mrs. Bristol, enthusiastic and willing persons can do miracles.

"Although the British volunteers working with the handicapped in Jordan are not trained and are not experts in this field, they have the determination and will to work with these people."

Mrs. Bristol said. However, she added, "the young British people work under trained heads at the homes here in Jordan".

During her visit to Jordan, Mrs. Bristol visited many charitable societies and met with Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib the president of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS).

Mrs. Bristol also discussed with concerned parties ways and means to develop the training and teaching techniques for children with multiple handicaps.

Mrs. Bristol emphasised the importance of attracting local volunteers and said that the whole idea of bringing volunteers from outside is to boost the morale of the staff and the handicapped children at homes and societies.

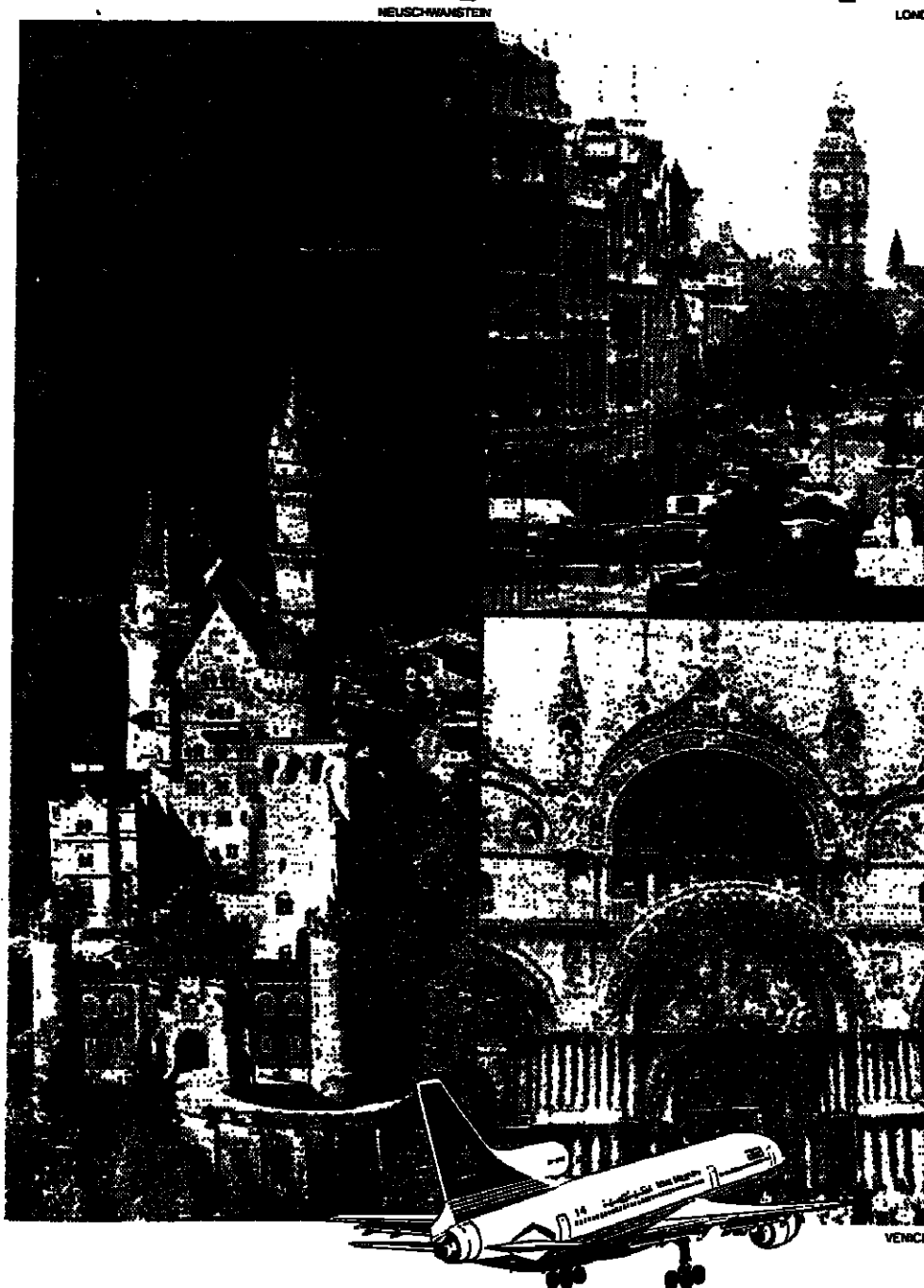
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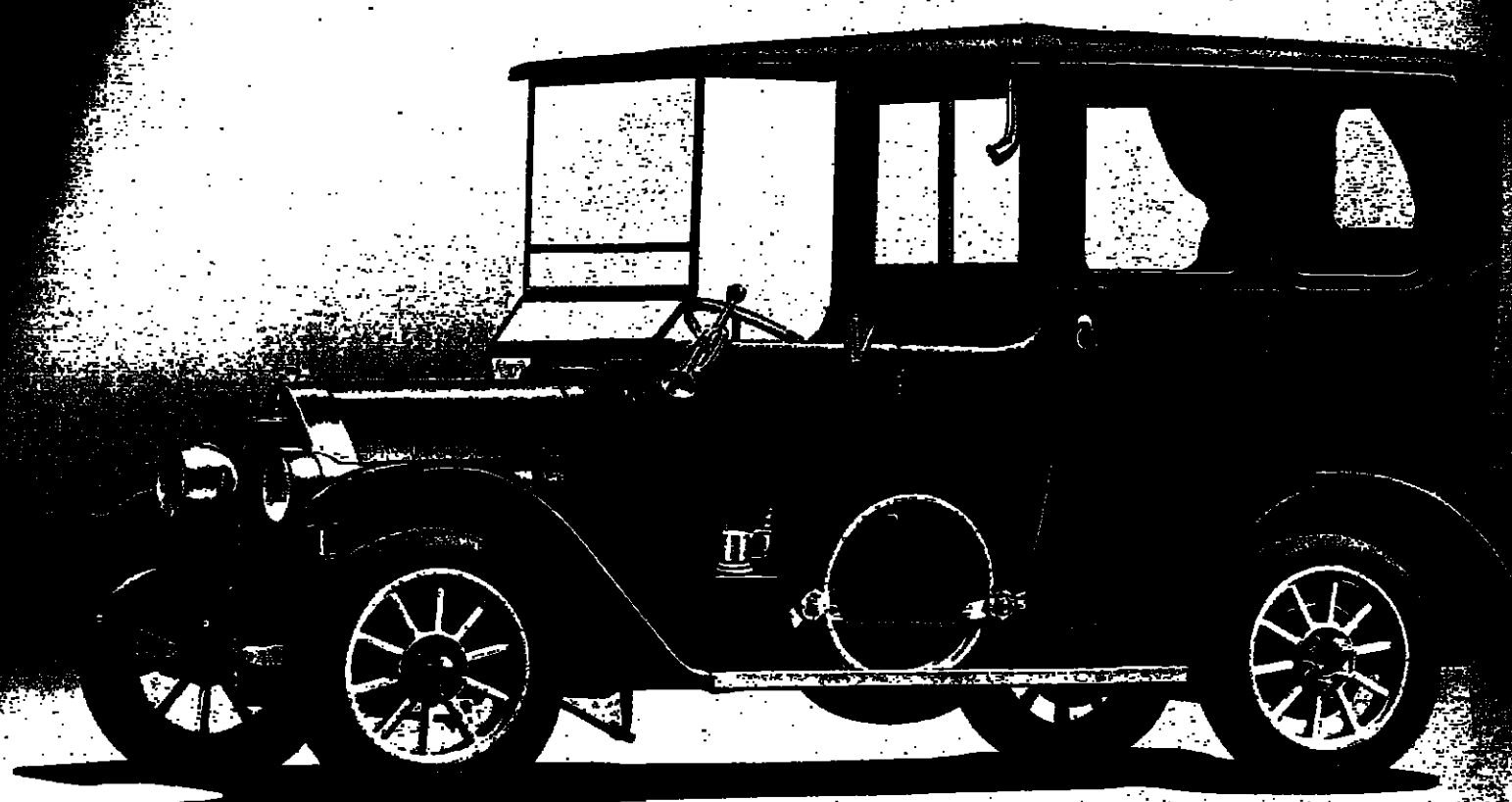


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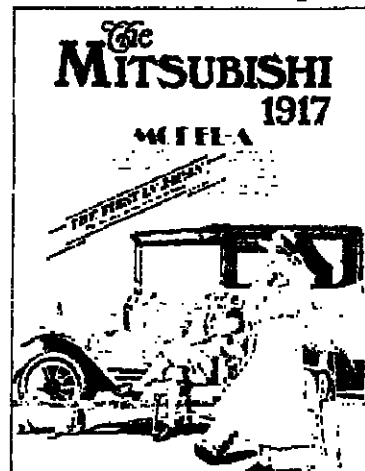
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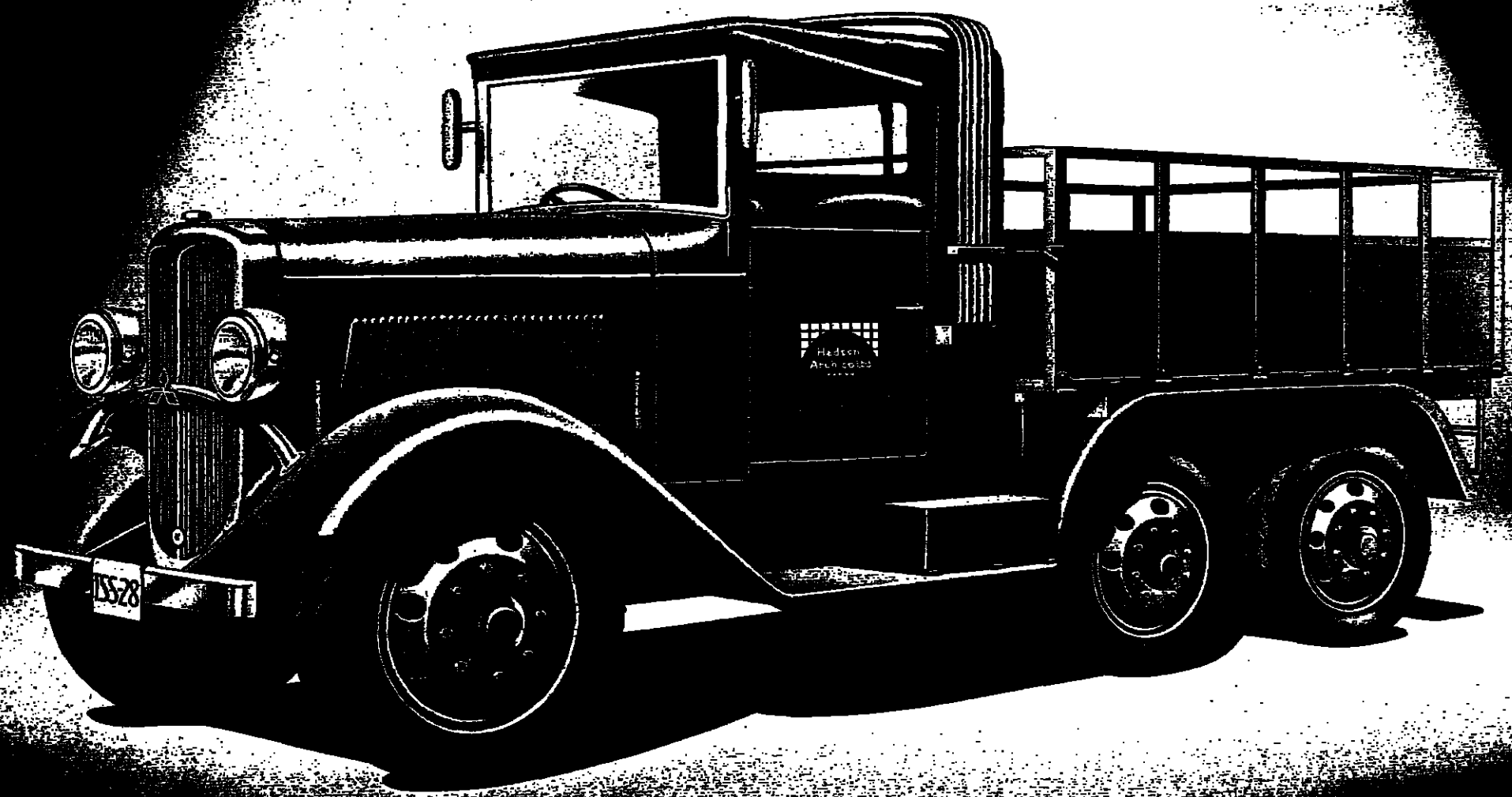
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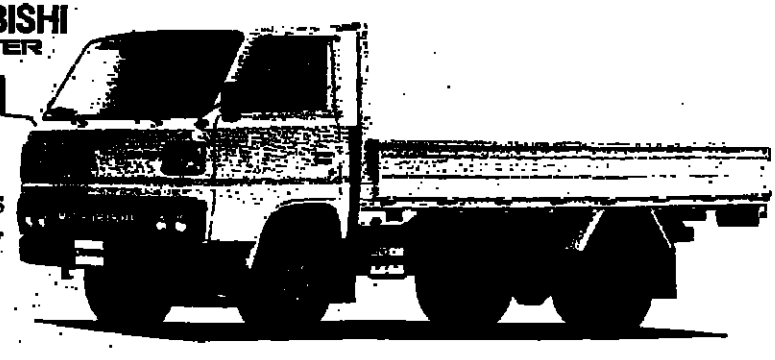


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The Church that moves by standing still

A JOKE in Latin from a Cardinal, a benign smile from the Pope. Before noon a dozen more red-capped domini, as the Prelates are called, are invited to switch on their microphones and speak for eight minutes. Then the ritual invitation to the Thermopolium which means Coffee Bar.

The extraordinary Synod of Bishops, much feared in advance as a Papal intrigue with a hidden agenda to put the clock of reform back 20 years to before Vatican II, in which the loyal opposition was supposed to confront the crabbed traditionalists in the congregation for the Doctrine of the Saints. Cardinal Ratzinger, has turned out more serene, altogether more civilised.

The Archbishops, Bishops, observers from other churches such as the Bishop of Kensington, and "auditors" sit on black leather in semi-circles before the Pope in a sound proofed amphitheatre above the Great Audience Hall. There are as many black faces as white under the red caps. Closed circuit television picks out speakers and translations on ear-phones are available for those, like

Mother Theresa an honoured "auditrice," who cannot manage the Latin. More than half the Bishops asked leave to speak in their own language.

The Pope sprawls impassively, shuffling papers intending to say nothing until all 165 Prelates have had their eight minutes and been through their committee stage. The drama has gone; it is safe to say there will be no crack down, no thunderbolts against doctrinal adventure, liberation theology, Bishops' power and the growing demand for married priests.

With the Holy See's Kremlin-like talent for explaining that nothing has changed, nothing said for which there is not already a text and no such thing as disagreement, John Paul II will invoke, on the one hand, the traditions that sanctify his infallibility, with texts from the infallible Vatican II (1961-5) as well as the Pope-leaning Vatican I (1870) in support, and, on the other hand, the more fashionable claims of "collegiality," the People of God, the Church of the Poor, and the march towards Christian unity.

Nothing will actually happen as a result of the Synod, which is good news — the minimum objective — for the modernists like Cardinal Basil Hume or his Belgian ally Cardinal Godfried Danneels. Standing still is better than going back, and this nil-result was discreetly foreseen well before the Synod, in the Council of European Bishops of which Hume is President.

Hume remained in the background. Frontman was Danneels, in the key role of rapporteur. Setting the tone so clearly that not even the Pope can now deviate in good conscience, the Daneels report said the "heart of the crisis" was what we mean by the Church. There has been a tendency (Ratzinger's ears burn here) "to oppose the Church as an institution to the church as a mystery, the People of God versus the Hierarchy. This has at times created mistrust."

Getting into hierarchy matters himself in the very next sentence, Danneels urged that the national Bishops' conferences, set up in the wake of Vatican II as a decentralised layer of authority, should

be given clear "theological status." A faint shift of barricades across the Via della Conciliazione. What is this subtle game really about, in which every player praises Vatican II — even Ratzinger who said that religious "decline" since the Council was caused by wrong interpretations of it. As nobody could sound more pro-Vatican II than the Pope, who had decided single handedly on calling the Synod to "celebrate" and "relieve" that event.

The unspoken fact is that this Polish Pope, a Holy gladiator in a world struggle he sees in much the same terms as the pre-Geneva Ronald Reagan did, would draw together the traditionalists and nostalgics who want the Church to be really Church — with mystery and magic, giving a clear sign on what is true and what is false. His predecessor John XXII, the man behind Vatican II, was the Pope who started dialogue with the world outside, including Communists. Karol Wojtyla came to Vatican II as the young Bishop of Cracow — an obscure member of a team which showed less sympathy for collegiality than for a

strong Pope with reliable battalions to put into the field. The young Wojtyla did not show his colours until later, when he helped Paul VI with Humanae Vitae, the Encyclical which banned birth control around the world.

Under this Pope, and this Ratzinger, the liberation theologian Boff was "silenced" and rightwing Bishops were imposed on one local church after another in an uncollegial way.

And now, half way through its course, the extraordinary Synod has already achieved more than the minimum aim of the moderates. Vatican II has been so resoundingly cheered that scarcely a voice was raised against any part of it. Ratzinger was low-keyed in his impeccable Latin. "People are looking for the sacred, but they are looking outside the Church for it."

All sections agreed, but what makes the Church more sacred? Is it authority which the Pope hankers for, or the Holy Community of the People of God, the Church from below, the Church of the Poor, the Church of all Christians together, which Vatican II bro-

ught to the fore?

But frankly, has not the Vatican II spirit got out of hand here and there? "Guitars at Mass are all right," said an official in Ratzinger's office, "but when they produce a folk march in church it's really gone too far." Ecumenism? Cardinal Joseph Cordeiro, Archbishop of Karachi, advised us to look further afield than Ratzinger to look for the obstacles for that. "Look at people who talk about tricks with a bag of bones. That's what's holding us up." The enemy here was not, of course, in Ratzinger's department but in Durham.

So Ratzinger is not alone in calling for a minimum of order and decorum. Indeed the battle lines at the Synod were not sharply drawn and this will be its real triumph. The reactionary image of John Paul II has been resoundingly offset by black, white and brown Prelates who agree there is work to be done and no going back. Too much work, with the world as it is, but here the old Vatican cliché will serve, the central motto of Popespeak: The Church thinks in Centuries. — The Guardian.

Ultra rightists wage war against U.S. college professors

By Gene Gibbons
Reporter

WASHINGTON — Tempers are flaring on U.S. campuses as a right-wing group, which fears colleges are becoming leftist indoctrination camps, wages a war of words with professors who see the new watchdogs as intellectual thugs.

Known as "Accuracy In Academia (AIA)," the University Classroom-Monitor Organisation is an offshoot of the conservative "Accuracy in Media," which for years has been fighting what it sees as a liberal bias in America's press.

The fledgling AIA says it already has student volunteers keeping tabs on classroom instruction at more than 150 universities across the United States.

Their job is to ensure that what their professors teach in the line of politics, ideology and history is "balanced." The monitors report their findings to headquarters in Washington, which contacts teachers supposedly guilty of bias.

The idea, AIA officials say, is to persuade them to see things their way. But if that fails, the group publishes its accusatory findings in a newsletter circulated to its own supporters and also tries to publicise the issue in the press.

"Some of these (professors) just need a little discipline and ... to remember what their function is," says Matthew Scully, a young AIA staff member. "If they're not inquisitorial, they're boring. They should be held accountable for that."

Many university teachers are incensed at the classroom surveillance, denouncing it in such terms as "thought police" and "intellectual goon squad."

Even President Reagan's cabinet adviser on such matters, Education Secretary William Bennett, a staunch conservative, terms the crusade "a bad idea."

AIA's president is former congressman John Leuboltiller of New York, a hero of America's "new right" who wrote a book on his own campus experiences called

"Harvard Hates America." AIA describes the book an expose of how "liberal-radical professors" were mis-educating their students.

The group's 22-year-old executive director, Les Casoria, estimates there are more than 10,000 Marxists teaching on U.S. campuses. The figure is based on a 1980 magazine story claiming radical influence has grown enormously over the past decade.

The article provides little evidence for its conclusion, and goes on to say that students "seem for the most part indifferent toward economic and political issues."

AIA insists it has no ideological axe to grind and says it strives only for "as much objectivity, fairness and balance as possible." But so far it has publicised only cases of purported leftist tutorial abuses.

For example, its initial newsletter accused an Arizona State University professor of using a political science course to deliver anti-nuclear harangues.

Casoria says a group like AIA is necessary to take errant professors to task. A student, he says, might feel like doing so but "has a grade or an academic career to think about."

Yet a different view comes from the academic establishment, civil libertarians and other critics. "I don't think it's at all alarmist to suggest that this cannot help but have a chilling effect on what people say" in classrooms, says Jonathan Knight, an AAUP official.

"I don't see how, qualitatively, this is different from events in Germany in the 1930s or the cultural revolution in China (in the 1960s), in the sense of individuals having a concept of truth which they think should be adhered to in the classroom and carrying out inquiries to make sure that people adhere to their version of truth," he says.

AIA's organisers, who count themselves among Reagan's staunchest political backers, have also been rebuked by Education Secretary Bennett.

High-tech cloak-and-dagger gear is big business

By Gavin Bell
Reporter

PARIS — Lift the cloak around a discreet trade exhibition on high-tech security equipment which opened in a Paris suburb this week and you will find a dagger — and much else besides.

There is an array of ingenious surveillance and explosive devices that rival the fantasies of a James Bond film.

The four-day event, which is not open to the public, is called Milipol 85, an acronym for police, civil and military security equipment.

In a close-guarded hall at Le Bourget, more than 160 companies from Europe and North America are displaying their latest specialised wares.

The clandestine world of spies, bodyguards and anti-terrorist poli-

tics is changing fast. An inaugural display last year attracted almost 2,000 visitors from 40 countries, and the organisers say business is increasing steadily. The most luxurious exhibit is a Rolls-Royce silver spirit — with armour-plated windows and a ceramic steel body guaranteed to stop automatic weapons fire up to NATO-issue 7.62 MM bullets at a range of 10 metres.

You can drive the limousine away for 1.35 million francs (\$170,000), or have your own car similarly protected for considerably less.

A popular item is an attache case with a hole in it. A machine pistol concealed inside fires up to 30 bullets in rapid succession when you press a trigger on the case handle. A laser targeting system is an optional extra. It is in service with the bod-

ygards of at least one European and several African heads of state, and is standard equipment for France's state police intervention group (GIGN).

For less extreme deterrence, there is the electronic defender — a pocket-sized device said to "dispel the aggression" of an assailant by hitting him with a 46,000-volt electric charge.

Or you could opt for a new flashlight, fitted with a nozzle that sprays a cloud of highly-irritant CS powder.

For a few dollars more you can have your car or armoured truck fitted with more powerful CS jets which the makers claim will "instantly neutralise" anybody within a 15-metre radius.

The complete package for today's elite crime-fighter costs around 65,000 francs (\$8,000). This is the anti-terrorist equi-

PMENT case, which contains 42 items ranging from stun, flash and smoke grenades to a climbing rope and plastic explosives.

There is even a dagger. But, according to Milipol vice-president Andrea Brignone, the focus of attention is moving towards less violent goods.

"There appears to be a growing interest in passive surveillance and counter-intelligence systems," he told reporters.

A typical product is an attache case containing eight tiny electronic bugs that can be concealed in an ashtray, a ball-point pen or a telephone, and a receiver to record the private conversations they transmit.

Its designer, who describes himself as a freelance security consultant, says he is often hired by company executives to track down

the same kind of devices he sells. At a nearby stand, clients are invited to "enter the world of computerised privacy" by investing in another attache case.

This one is designed to pinpoint bugs in your telephone and to make a similar electronic sweep of your car, home or office.

Yet another safeguards valuable contents by stunning a thief with electric shocks or spraying him with CS powder. Just to make sure, it also has a remote-controlled self-destruct system.

Then there is the attache case that will photograph 25 documents per minute, by day or night.

A slightly larger one houses a video camera and transmitter which is said to be widely used for recording drug trafficking. The most exotic requirements

are not necessarily those of spies. Fighter pilots shot down in a tropical jungle need worry no longer — the French air force has designed a compact, folding machete for him to hack his way out.

This paraphernalia of violence and espionage is now packaged with all the trimmings of a highly-competitive industry — glossy brochures, attractive hostesses and hospitality areas where champagne flows as smoothly as the sales talk.

But an element of mystery remains. Daniel Henrion, an executive in the "new technologies" division of a French company, confided to Reuters: "Not all of our products are on display."

"There are some we can't talk about. I mean for intervention by special security forces. One must retain the element of surprise..."

King opens new radar control centre

(Continued from page 1)
voiced appreciation for King Hussein for sponsoring the ceremony and the King's interest in the project. The project, he said, was a fruit of cooperation between the Jordanian and British governments. He also outlined the objectives and duties of the centre and in serving Arab and international airlines that use the Queen Alia International Airport.

Later, the King and queen were briefed, with slides, on the centre's different aspects and duties.

In presenting the briefing, the director of the project, Rajai

Rifai, said the centre was deemed necessary in the face of increasing air traffic in Jordanian air space over the past decade. The new centre, which is equipped with most up-to-date radar systems, will meet the growing increase in demand for air safety until the end of the current century. Mr. Rifai added.

He said that two radar systems will be operational — one for covering an area with a radius of 80 miles around the international airport to monitor departing and arriving planes and the second

with a 200-mile radius to cover air traffic over the whole country.

The JD 2 million project offers further facility to incoming and outgoing planes and more air travel safety on land and in air and will save time and fuel, according to a CAA spokesman.

The spokesman said that sufficient Jordanian personnel have been recruited and trained to handle the systems.

At present 18 people are qualified to handle the equipment and other air traffic controllers are being trained for the purpose. Another eight engineers have been trained to take care of maintenance operations and can handle the job efficiently, the spokesman added.

The opening ceremony was attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Asem, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Minister of Transport Farhi Obeid, Mr. Ali Ghadour, board chairman and director of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, Alia Director-General Mahmoud Jamal Balaz, Sharif Ghazi Rakan Nasser, director of Arab Wings and British Ambassador to Jordan John Coles and senior officials.

House voices full support for policy

(Continued from page 1)
causes required a "frank closed session" with the cabinet, according to one deputy who refused to give any details on Tuesday's session.

Mr. Rifai held a similar closed session with the Upper House on Monday.

Over the last three months Jordan has witnessed important political developments which included reconciliation with Syria and the collapse of a scheduled meeting between British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and two senior Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials who were part of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, and a re-evaluation of Jordan's relations with the PLO.

Hence, deputies, who asked not to be named said, "we wanted more details on those developments and their impact on Jordan's future strategies."

The House's cable of support reflected, according to political observers, the deputies' full support for the government's rapprochement with Syria and positions vis-a-vis the different issues in the Middle East.

The closed session followed an ordinary session of the House in

which four deputies, who were elected to the House last week to fill vacant West Bank seats, were sworn in and a number of temporary laws were referred to the respective House committees.

The four new West Bank deputies are Wahid Al Jaabari of Helbron, Farouk Hafez Al Abdallah of Tulikarm, Tahseen Abdul Raouf Al Fares of Nablus and Nicola Akel of Ramallah.

Each of the new deputies was called by name by the speaker of the House and asked to take an oath pledging allegiance to the country and the King.

On Tuesday, the House also ratified a loan agreement between Jordan and the World Bank to finance an urban development project to provide low-cost housing units for lower income citizens. The ratification came despite reservations expressed by a number of deputies over the World Bank's high interest rates.

The House Financial Committee approved the agreement saying that the project was important to the country's progress although three of its members expressed strong reservations over the deal.

The three, Mr. Fuad Faraj, Mr. Abdallah Al Akaleh and Mr. Abdul Baqi Gamou, said the interest rates were high for a country like Jordan and that the beneficiaries of the project, mainly from low income social strata, will be the direct sufferers.

Both Mr. Gamou and Mr. Faraj, who expressed reservations in writing, said that the interest rate that will be paid by the beneficiaries is expected to be 10 per cent, taking into consideration the rate of the other financier of the project, the Housing Bank.

Mr. Rizaq Al Bataineh criticised the three deputies' position saying that "according to the House's statute there is no such thing as expressing reservations."

"It is either yes or no," Mr. Bataineh said.

Mr. Gamou defended himself and colleagues by saying that "expressing reservations is equal to abstaining from voting."

"Furthermore, we (the three deputies) realise that it is a good project but we are only worried about the deal with the World Bank which could cost a lot," he said. "We did not mean to hamper the project but thought we should point out that high interest rates are involved."

Mr. Leith Shbeilat, one of the most outspoken deputies in the House, endorsed the three deputies' reservations but went a step further by warning of the "future negative implications of dealing with the World Bank on such high rates."

Mr. Shbeilat said loans from the World Bank are not usually given on constant rates and the bank may choose to raise the rates if needed.

He said the World Bank borrows big amounts of money with a certain fixed interest rate and then, even if its lenders increased their rates, the bank is not committed to raise its interest rate at times of fluctuations.

He accused the World Bank of exercising "imperialism" on developing countries in citing Morocco as an example of a country "which is now facing a big national controversy caused by its debts to the World Bank."

The controversial points raised by Mr. Shbeilat and the other three deputies, however, failed to provoke a debate and the majority of the House members agreed to ratify the agreement when it was put to vote directly afterwards.

Mr. Shbeilat also urged the House Legal Committee to give a reply on a suggestion by 22 deputies to amend the present Press and Publication Law.

The Jordan Times learned that the suggested amendment aims at removing an article which allows the government to withdraw the publication licence of any newspaper or magazine without previous notice and without allowing the publisher to file a claim against the order.

A deputy, who supported the suggested amendments, accused the Legal Committee of trying "to kill" the amendment by postponing its discussion.

He told the Jordan Times that the deputies had submitted the suggestion to the committee in April 1984.

During its session on Tuesday the House's eight committees announced the results of elections held previously for the committees' chairmen and rapporteurs.

The results, announced were the following:

The Financial Committee: Musa Abul Ragheb (chairman), and Maarouf Al Rabaa (rapporteur).

The Legal Committee: Sulaiman Al Judah (chairman) and Abdul Baki Gamou (rapporteur).

The Administrative Committee: Zohair Hussein (chairman) and Nazih Amareen (rapporteur).

The Foreign Affairs Committee: Rizaq Al Bataineh (chairman) and Fuad Faraj (rapporteur).

The Educational Committee: Abdul Baki Gamou (chairman) and Dr. Fawzi Shaker Al Towiemeh (rapporteur).

The Agricultural Committee: Muflih Al Odeh Allah (chairman) and Khaled Rabaa (rapporteur).

The National Orientation, Tourism and Expatriates Committee: Farah Abu Jabir (chairman) and Edward Khamis (rapporteur).

The Occupied Territories Affairs Committee: Daoud Sulaiman Daoud (chairman) and Mohammad Zoweih (rapporteur).

Yarmouk to maintain campuses

(Continued from page 1)
would take advantage of the expanded facilities of the two campuses to slowly increase enrolment to 30,000.

Dr. Badran explained that each campus will have the capacity of accommodating up to 15,000 students.

According to an official at the university's student registration department, out of the 14,450 students currently attending the 1985/86 graduate and post graduate studies, there are 6,000 students registered at the various science departments.

The temporary site was built in six months following the 1975 June Royal Decree which announced the establishment of Yarmouk University.

"The temporary building's infrastructure is more art-oriented while the permanent building's infrastructure is science-oriented. Therefore the science departments will be moved to the new site, allowing the arts campus to immediately expand and accept up to 15,000 students for the 1986/87 academic year," Dr. Badran said.

However, he explained, the science site will only be able to accept up to 1,000 new science students for the 1986/87 academic year in addition to the existing 6,000 students until work on buildings are completed.

"Eventually, we will be accepting more new students each year until the number reaches 15,000," Dr. Badran said.

The science campus covers a total area of 10,400 dunums with infrastructure plans to accommodate up to 15,000 students, 750 faculty members and 350 technicians.

According to a university press release issued in 1981, Yarmouk University's temporary site should have become a community college with the capacity of accepting 6,000 students, after the permanent site was completed.

"Rumours within the Ministry of Higher Education and among educationalists had said that the university's temporary site would become permanent while its permanent site would become a semi-private shareholding university eventually developing into a pan-Arab university."

"This subject was debated," Dr. Badran said, "but we realised that such an idea was not feasible."

Dr. Badran expressed hope that the transfer and impending plans would solve Jordan's higher education problems since "both campuses will allow more students to register and complete their higher education."

king to implement United Nations resolutions based on justice, and through their Feb. 11 agreement signed in Amman the two sides hope to bring permanent peace in the region, Mr. Salah said.

The Amman accord, he said, is an expression of the national and historical links between the Palestinians and Jordanians and should be regarded as a step with far-reaching political dimensions.

"Though both sides have never contended that the whole question will be resolved overnight, we hope relentless moves and diligent work would help us achieve our aspiration," Mr. Salah said.

The Fateh revolutionary council of Sabri Al Banna (Abu Nidal), in a typed statement distributed to news agencies here, called the killing "an execution of the people's fair sentence against the traitor for all his crimes and double allegiance."

An aide to Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Mr. Shehadeh's death "certainly won't help" advance the peace process.

"The killing will make the activists (who call for a peaceful settlement) less active and more careful," Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij told the Associated Press. "To lose him at this time will have great repercussions for efforts to start peace talks."

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NOTICE

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Aqaba Railway Corporation invites sealed tender for design, construction, supply and delivery including testing and commissioning of a 120 tonnes to 180 tonnes capacity diesel powered road or road-cum-rail breakdown crane to be used mainly for clearing operations.

The supply of the breakdown crane including spares and accessories is to be financed by the tenderers.

Interested parties may obtain further information, if required, from the office of Aqaba Railway Corporation, P.O. Box 50, Ma'an, Jordan (Telex No. 82225 ARC JO, Telephone 32114/32234, Ma'an) after purchasing the Tender Documents obtainable from the corporation's office at Ma'an or ARC's representative, in liaison office in Ministry of Transport, Amman, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of JD 120/-

All tenders must be accompanied by a tender bond of 5% of the bid value. The sealed tenders must be handed over to the chief clerk of ARC's office at Ma'an on or before 12 O' clock on 24th February 1986.

Mardi Qatamin, Director General.

'Accord represents hopes'

(Continued from page 1)

gradual eviction of Palestinians from their homeland.

The Jordanians have responded favourably and fervently to calls of conscience and appeals to work for the restoration of Palestinian people's rights, Mr. Salah said.

He said that Jordan has embarked on joint efforts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to fulfil the aspirations of the Palestinian people to freedom by endeavouring to reach a final durable and comprehensive settlement for the Palestine question. Jordan and the PLO are now seeking to implement United Nations resolutions based on justice, and through their Feb. 11 agreement signed in Amman the two sides hope to bring permanent peace in the region, Mr. Salah said.

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PLO condemns killing of lawyer

(Continued from page 1)

of a peace agreement with Israel. Israel Radio quoted police as saying the motive for the lawyer's murder might have been criminal rather than political and that it might have been connected with Mr. Shehadeh's law practice or business dealings. Police were quoted as saying two men were involved and that one held Mr. Shehadeh while a second slit the lawyer's throat. The body was found in a pool of blood on his driveway by a neighbour.

In Damascus, on Tuesday, a radical Palestinian group claimed responsibility for the killing of Mr. Shehadeh.

مكتبة الأبحاث

Europe's depopulation stirs dire predictions of social upheaval

BRUSSELS — Werner Haug, author of the book, "Are the Swiss Dying Out?" thinks he has an answer to the depopulation question. "The four-child family should become the new ideal," he says.

But to Isabel Conesa, a Madrid mother of four, that's far from ideal. "It's all nonsense, the joys of a big family," says the 36-year-old housewife. "One child is great. Two is just fine. Even three is all right, but four is too many, and five!" She shudders. "Five is impossible." After offspring No. 4, Mrs. Conesa had a tubal ligation, so that she would be unable to have any more children.

Mr. Haug and Mrs. Conesa represent the protagonist and antagonist in a demographic drama that portends deep social and economic change in Europe. While populations in the Third World explode, those in Europe are peaking. In many countries — West Germany, Denmark, Austria, Belgium and Luxembourg — the number of people has already started to decline.

'Collective suicide'

Some governments are cautiously introducing measures to encourage larger families, but couples show little inclination to comply so far. Experts say that only a psychological revolution will reverse the slide to what Gaston Thorn, former prime minister of Luxembourg, has called "the tendency toward collective suicide."

If the current low fertility rates hold, the lines on the population graphs could, in a matter of centuries, approach zero. Although nobody is actually predicting such a disaster, many are dismayed at the thought of the upheaval that could come from an increasing number of the elderly and fewer young people. They foresee out-of-control social-security costs, undermanned armies, clashes between native and immigrant workers.

Other Western nations, such as the U.S. and Japan, are experiencing similar problems, but at a less-advanced stage. The trend seems to accompany the long-term shift from farm-oriented to heavily industrialised societies in the West. As people move to cities, they are leaving behind more of a luxury than the economic necessity they once were.

The European Community's birth rate has plunged by a third, to 12.2 per 1,000 population in 1982 from 18 per 1,000 in 1960, and it's still falling. This means that the average female is expected to bear far fewer children in her lifetime than the "replacement level" of 2.1 that would assure equilibrium in the population.

"A population decline poses new problems for Italy," says Maria Eletta Martini, a Christian-Democratic senator and chairman of the government's commission for population problems. "We will end up with too large an inactive populace beside too small an active populace. There will be an imbalance that will blow up all our economic programme."

That worry is echoed by Jean-Claude Chesnais of France's National Institute of Demographic Studies. Although the French population grew by 0.4 per cent in 1984, he predicts it will flatten by the end of the century, and he fears the long-term consequences.

"Within the next 40 or 50 years, we will see the population pyramid turned upside-down," says Mr. Chesnais. "We'll be faced with economic and financial imbalances, problems of social policy and land use and possibly even international political problems."

Shortage of youth

Other concerns of European policy makers centre on the looming shortage of youths to fill schools, armies and the skilled end of the labour force, and on the potential disintegration of cities peopled largely by the elderly, the poor and immigrants. On a deeper level, some analysts believe that the aging process will sap entire nations of their dynamism.

"I'm afraid we'll miss the youthful inspiration, and this may cause the whole society to stop developing or change," says Helle Degn, chairman of the Danish Equal Status Council and a Social Democratic member of Parliament.

Some ordinary citizens fear that the demographic shift could endanger their economic well-being and way of life. A middle-aged Briton who cares for his ailing mother in Potts Wood, England, laments that "there won't be sufficient young to pay the old." The right-wing magazine *Le Figaro* recently ran a highly controversial article that claimed that because of higher birthrates, people of non-European descent could outnumber French natives in France. It was entitled "Will We Still Be French in 30 years?"

Not everyone feels threatened, however. "How awful it would be if there were only Swiss," says Ursula Scharenac, a 40-year-old masseuse. Indeed, the mass of Europeans seem unconcerned about their continent's depopulation prospects, figuring either that the impact will be limited or that big families will come back in style.

In the absence of political pressure, governments are either taking a neutral stance or introducing modest measures to spur childbearing.

Spain, which has experienced one of the sharpest birthrate drops in Western Europe, exhibits the spirit of irresolution. The National Institute of Health recently launched separate television campaigns — one to inform women about contraceptive techniques, carrying the punch-line, "sex is one thing and children are another," and the other on the "privilege of being pregnant."

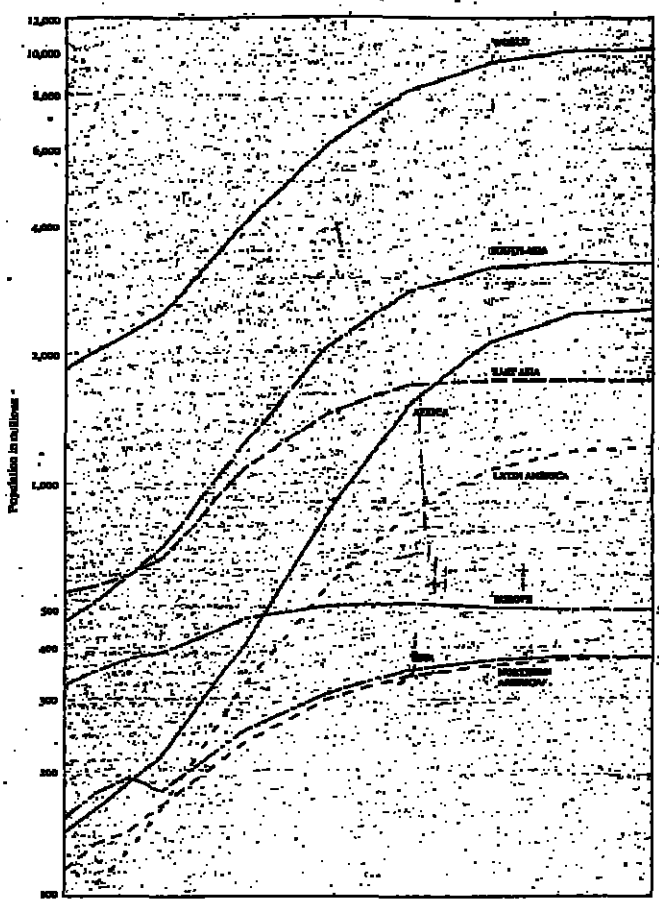
The contraceptive commercials brought an outraged reaction from sociologist Amando de Miguel, who complained that the government "ought to be informed about demography before spending public money on this at the wrong time."

The French, who are having more babies than most other Europeans, are also being bombarded by advertisements — most of them urging large families, a goal personally backed by President Francois Mitterrand. Last month, in fact, he created a High Council on Population and the Family.

Paris has long been at the forefront of the battle to foster fertility, providing lengthy, paid maternity leaves, generous child-support allocations and retirement-benefit credit for mothers who take extra months off from work. It also offers interest-free loans to young couples to encourage them to reproduce, and special cash grants linked to the birth of a third child.

On top of these and other financial incentives, Georgina Dufoux, minister of social affairs and national solidarity, has embarked on a media crusade to make French society more family-oriented. She would like gasoline stations to sell disposable diapers, for example, and restaurants to concoct children's menus. Says government demographer Michel Louis Levy, "If the state feels it's an investment for the country's future, then it should invest."

West Germany is planning to



The global net population increase of the last 30 years has exceeded the total world population of 1920. Population growth has been particularly rapid in Asia, Africa and Latin America, as is shown by the relative steepness of the trend lines of the figure, which is drawn on logarithmic scale.

introduce measures similar to France's, but many other governments take a low-key, if not anomalous, position on childbearing. Some disclaim any intention of trying to influence couples' decisions, even though they confer some financial inducements.

Britain gives child-benefit allowances, but a spokesman for the Department of Health says the government "takes a completely neutral stance" on family planning. The Danish parliament recently voted to make annual payments to parents of 5,000 kroner (\$525) per child, starting in 1987, but politicians assert the measure is meant purely as a social benefit.

Spain, Austria and Italy also proclaim their impartiality — so firmly that Prof. Antonio Golini, director of Italy's Institute for Population Research, says they're really ducking the issue. "The lack of a demographic policy is a policy," he says. "It is a policy of open refusal for those who want more children."

Still, the official ambiguity appears to be a reflection of population uncertainty. Some women want lots of babies, some want none, but many appear torn between the desire to have children and the pursuit of careers or other interests.

Valerie Salmeron, a 23-year-old political science student in Paris, thinks people are putting off parenthood out of sheer egotism. "They only care about their own individual happiness," she says. "It seems to me that that people without children miss a lot — and how sad it would be to die alone."

Yet, Miss Salmeron points out that, as a practical matter, raising children these days is a very expensive proposition. She herself doesn't expect to start a family until the distant future.

Josefine Nitschke, a checkout clerk in a Bonn supermarket, also thinks selfishness is on the rise. "Too many people, a child is an obstacle," the mother of three says, pausing behind her cash register. "They want to go on vacation or to discos."

Hanne Gamed, a Copenhagen lawyer, sees it differently. "It's not my responsibility to keep this soc-

ety alive by contributing small children to it," says the 29-year-old. "The time of the superwoman is gone."

For many working women who do decide to have children, one is sufficient. And with birth control and abortion widely available, unwanted births are pretty much a thing of the past. There are now 41 abortions for every 100 live births in Denmark and 38 per 100 in Italy.

Costly kids

The most common explanation for the decline in childbearing is economic. Paradoxical as it may seem in prosperous Europe, procreation is widely perceived as too expensive.

"Can you have four children in a two-room flat? Impossible," says Stavros Liadis, an Athens news editor in his late 40s. "People nowadays want the good things in life," he says, necktie askew as he starts his second full-time job of the day. "They want to avoid the sacrifices of bringing up children. I personally decided not to have a second child."

Beryl Tedore, a British housewife, says "We restricted our family to two (kids). It enabled us to give them a better start in life."

Not only do children require a huge economic investment, they no longer repay it in later years as providers for their parents — a role taken over by the state. "The bond is emotional now, not built on the young ones looking after the old ones at the end of their days," says Mr. Haug, the Swiss sociologist.

Another interpretation for Europe's demographic drop is plain overcrowding. Jorge Pereira Silva, a 60-year-old former clerical worker in Lisbon, grumps about the long-lines — it took him an hour and a half to pay a bill at the post office the other day — wherever he goes.

"When I was young, families were bigger, but we seemed to have more room," he says.

Here and there, environmentalists and other activists applaud the peaking of the population and regret only that it doesn't shrink more rapidly.

"Ecologically, Switzerland can't afford to have so many people," says Swiss lawyer Peter Creole. "It

should be back by half to 3.2 million people."

Spanish sociologist Amando de Miguel scoffs at the notion that low birth rates will lead to social dissolution. "Look at El Salvador," he says. "It has a lot of young people, and it's a bigger disaster than Denmark."

Besides, many Europeans assert, the current preference for small families could change; what went out of fashion can come back again. "Things can even out," says Elga Martinez-Weinberger of Austria's Ministry of Family, Youth and Consumer Protection.

Nadio Delai, director of Censis, Italy's leading social-research institute, quips that "demographers spend half their time making predictions, and the other half trying to explain why their predictions were wrong." He sees some signs that women will start having more children.

"We think there is software in the system that auto-corrects the (current) tendency," Mr. Delai says.

A few blocks away, 24-year-old Elizabeth Agnoletti Scardia provides evidence to back up his claim. Walking out of city hall, where she has just gotten married, she says she and her husband want "lots of children — enough to fill up the Volvo station wagon."

Until recently, young adults

looked upon parenthood as almost gauche, she adds, "but that generation is passing."

So far, though, the lines on the demographic charts aren't perking up. According to the EC statistical agency Eurostat, the fertility rate has tumbled across the board: to 1.4 children per woman in West Germany in 1983 from 2.37 in 1960; to 1.79 in France from 2.73; to 1.51 in Italy from 2.41; to 1.47 in the Netherlands from 3.1; to 1.61 in Belgium from 2.58; to 1.45 in Luxembourg from 2.28; to 1.77 in Britain from 2.69; to 1.38 in Denmark from 2.54 and to 1.94 in Greece from 2.28.

Spain, Norway and other countries report similar drops; even Ireland's rate, a fruitful 2.74, has decreased from 3.76.

Some experts think only a radical transformation of sex roles can induce women to have more children. "It will require a social revolution, where men share work in the home," says Mr. Haug, the Swiss sociologist and author.

Adds Mr. Chesnais of France's National Institute of Demographic Studies, "A woman's role has changed from reproduction to production. It is a problem for women to reconcile having a career and a family." He corrects himself. "Or, rather, it is a problem for the couple to reconcile" — *Wall Street Journal*.



UNICEF: Over 30 per cent of all children born in the developing countries die before the age of five from malnutrition and related diseases. Nearly half of those who survive suffer malnutrition severe enough to leave them with irreversible damage to their bodies or minds. Join UNICEF in making the world a better place for children. One way you can help is to buy UNICEF cards and stationery. They are on sale locally at 629571. For information, call 668171.

Egypt alarmed at growing hard drug menace

By Ashraf Fouad

Reuter

CAIRO — Egypt has launched an urgent campaign to combat a growing hard drug menace which is hitting the country later than most nations.

A leading psychiatrist, Fathi Loza, says there are about 100,000 cocaine or heroin addicts in Egypt who spend \$7 million a day to maintain their habit.

Egypt, with about 47 million people, has a history of hashish and opium use. But refined hard drugs arrived only in the 1980s.

Major-General Fathi Eid of the anti-narcotics police told Reuters that addicts first appeared in hospitals in 1982, triggering official concern over what he called "the new phenomenon of white poison."

The anti-drug campaign includes a government advertisement on late-night television, which shows a flashing death's head skull warning of the dangers of using drugs.

Ministers, clergymen and doc-

tors are giving seminars in universities and social clubs, while the government-owned media carry almost daily stories on the deadly effects of hard drugs.

The government said last month it wanted courts, already able to sentence drug smugglers either to death or to life imprisonment, to opt for capital punishment for cocaine or heroin traffickers.

No trafficker has been sent to the gallows so far.

Interior Minister Ahmed Rushdi said jailed drug dealers would lose rights to early parole and serve full sentences — a mandatory 25 years' hard labour.

To discourage young people from trying hard drugs, newspapers give prominence to reports that pushers mix them with poisonous chemicals.

The government has said addicts who declare themselves will not be prosecuted and will receive medical treatment without relatives being notified.

Psychiatrist Loza, who owns the largest mental hospital in Egypt,

says stress is turning people to hard drugs.

"Any change for better or worse causes stress... we have been experiencing continuous economic, political and social changes over the past few years that cause tension and stress, especially on young people," Loza said.

Some dealers and users disagree, saying they only became involved with hard drugs after the government clamped down on the traditional drug, hashish, and arrested hundreds of people.

Hashish and opium have been known in Egypt since the days of the Pharaohs 5,000 years ago.

Until government raids in 1980, Cairo's Buteyna area was packed with hashish smoke-houses and many dealers were active.

An ex-dealer said that after the raids he started to push what he called "pure," a local cocktail of hard drugs, because a few grams of white powder were less risky and easier to hide than bulky hashish.

Some users say the price of has-

hish has risen from a few dollars for four grams, called an "ersh," to \$40 and the quality has deteriorated since the raids.

"I buy a fix for less than hashish and I catch a better buzz," one user said.

A gram of heroin or cocaine has a street value of about \$120, and pushers sell a smaller dose, known as a "ticket," for \$15.

A half kilo of heroin was seized at Egypt's borders in 1982. This rose to 19 kilos last year.

General Eid said police confiscated 54 kilos of pure heroin in the first seven months of 1985. After mixing, this becomes 200 kilos, which he estimates is only 10 to 20 per cent of the quantity entering the country.

Loza and Eid say young people from rich families and highly paid workers, such as mechanics and plumbers, are the main heroin or cocaine customers.

A government study showed that 14 per cent of addicts were under 16 years of age and 58 per cent were between 16 and 22.

U.S. remains haven for illegal art trade

By David Sasson

Reuter

NEW YORK — Despite years of effort by U.S. lawmakers, America remains the hub of a secret but flourishing international trade in illicit antiquities valued at a billion dollars a year, say art experts and customs agents.

In 1983, President Reagan signed the Cultural Properties Implementation Act to try and end this illegal trade by allowing victimised countries to list stolen or smuggled treasures which U.S. customs would then try to prevent entering the country.

However, since then only Canada has tried to use the facility and not a single prosecution, import restriction or repatriation of an art work has resulted.

"The Cultural Properties Act... can only fight art theft after the fact," said Oscar White Moscarella, an archaeologist at New York's Metropolitan Museum. "It's like trying to prevent the

murder of a corpse."

In the 19th century, Western nations amassed antiquities with impunity. More recently networks of thieves and smugglers have become suppliers for dealers and collectors in industrial nations.

In Mexico, armed gangs have used heavy machinery to hack apart ancient monuments. They work methodically and have fired at strangers who disturbed their pillaging.

Collectors have even been known to order pieces they desire by offering a price for them.

Only in the case of pre-Columbian antiquities — treasures predating European colonisation — from Latin America has progress been made. Trade in this area has declined dramatically since 1977 after Texas art dealers were prosecuted for importing artifacts from Mexico into the U.S.

Mexico passed a law declaring such artifacts the property of the nation. A U.S. court, recognising the law, held that Texas dealers were knowingly trading in stolen

property in violation of the National Stolen Properties Act.

The customs service began using the precedent as the basis for vigorous enforcement procedures. Smugglers found it more and more difficult to find dealers willing to touch anything of questionable provenance and auction houses became very careful when accepting anything pre-Columbian on consignment.

But groups opposed to restrictions on the art trade responded by lobbying for laws that would make trading in illicit antiquities even easier.

Experts say the situation may worsen for Third World countries, despite the passage of the Cultural Properties Act.

In 1970 international concern led to adoption of the UNESCO convention on the means of prohibiting and preventing the import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property.

UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, last year urged

Britain to return the Elgin Marbles to Greece but Britain recently rejected the plea.

Washington was a moving force in the drafting and passage of the convention but it took the U.S. Congress more than a decade to pass legislation in the form of the Cultural Properties Act.

When the act finally emerged in 1983, the strength of many of its provisions had been watered down through the efforts of New York Democratic Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

Moynihan, former ambassador to India and director of the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington D.C., argues that the West cares for antiquities better than Third World nations which he says lack the resources, know-how and desire.

Moynihan has given his blessing to the American Association of Dealers in Ancient, Oriental and Primitive Art, a group which has tried strenuously to lift restrictions on such properties entering the country.

Britons struggle to cope with high-rise housing

By Michael Wise

Reuter

LONDON — Britain is wrestling with the problems of high-rise apartment blocks which mushroomed in the late 1950s and 1960s to solve the post-war housing shortage.

Many of these blocks are now modern ruins, and the cry "blow them up" is often heard from residents.

A million publicly-owned apartments need repair, says the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, most of them in the 4,500 blocks of over six storeys.

A London borough is solving the problem in an ugly 23-storey structure with dynamite and a wrecking ball.

One former resident said he was well rid of a home "like a jail on stilts." He and others won release and a demolition grant this month after intensive lobbying of the government.

"Pressure has reached a very high level," a spokeswoman for the National Tower Blocks Network told Reuters. "The government is on the path of recognising the problem and trying to cope."

"People have reached the stage of absolute frustration," said an organiser of another newly-launched national group linking tenants with municipal authorities that run the apartments.

Using so-called system-design patterns with prefabricated concrete and glass panels, high-rise blocks spread throughout Britain as a quick solution to a housing shortage caused by World War Two bombing.

As the blocks went up, sociologists condemned architects for forcing workers with little choice into isolated boxes in the sky, ignoring serious problems which had already emerged in such projects in the United States.

"The design of blocks means that tenants rarely see each other," says a London community worker. "There's no waving in at windows or talking over the fence. It is very lonely."

To make matters worse, many system-design patterns proved faulty and the massive building scheme ground to halt as five people were killed when a block collapsed in a gas explosion.

"It aimed to liberate people from the slums but has come to represent an even worse form of bondage," King's College land use expert Alice Coleman writes in a study linking high-rise anonymity to vandalism and other social ills.

"Living in a high-rise block does not force all its inhabitants to become criminals," she says. "But by creating anonymity, lack of surveillance and escape routes, it puts temptation in their way and makes it probable that some of the weaker brethren will succumb."

Some commentators blamed modern design for a riot in October which left two people dead on the Broadwater Farm housing estate in north London's Tottenham area.

Problems on many other estates have spurred the Home Office, in charge of law and order, into sponsoring research into the connection between architecture and social unrest.

The Department of the Environment, responsible for existing housing projects, has shown a growing and what many critics call belated interest in helping local groups deal with the failure of a sizeable portion of multi-storey buildings.

"Some of the tower blocks will have to come down," Environment Secretary Kenneth Baker said recently.

Housing projects have been demolished over the past decade in the Liverpool, Glasgow and Manchester areas. But the blowing up of the north London block marks the first time the government has agreed to consider continuing its subsidy for a building razed primarily because of the social drawbacks of the design.

If granted, the subsidy would go towards new low-rise houses with gardens, something tenants have not known for 20 years in the graffiti-ridden tower block. The block used a pattern designed for Algeria and poorly insulated aga-

inst British damp.

This time round architects are directly consulting tenants, a development stemming from the popular community design movement which gained prominence from backing by Prince Charles, heir to the throne.

"The decision to demolish is an important landmark in the battle to right the terrible mistakes which were made when these blocks were built and money for new building flowed," said Greater London Council Housing Chairman Tony McBrearty.

He noted that no tenants took up Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's offer for them to buy homes in the tower as part of her Conservative government's sell-off of state properties.

At least ten other blocks of over 15 storeys are scheduled for demolition in the London area alone. However, blowing them up is not a realistic alternative for all of Britain's undesirable blocks and the government urges renovation first.

Some efforts to improve existing blocks have worked. A study published by the British Institute of Housing outlines nine such cases.

Among these is a once notorious 30-storey Glasgow tower where low and middle income tenants are now mixed and top floors with "superior" furnishings are aimed at young professionals.



FILMS: Soviet film director Sergei Bondarchuk is currently making a large-scale movie "Boris Godunov" (Czar of Russia in 1598-1605). It is a screen version of the immortal tragedy by Ale-

xander Pushkin. The film is shot by the "Mosfilm" studio in Moscow and in the Moscow Kremlin (Photo by V. Mastynkov - TASS)

Navratilova routs Sukova in 'professional vendetta'

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Martina Navratilova of the United States scored one of the most satisfying victories of her career Tuesday to reach the semi-finals of the \$1.5-million Australian Open Tennis Championships at Kooyong.

The 29-year-old Czech-born left-hander stormed to a 6-2, 6-2 triumph over eighth seeded Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia, helping to wipe out the memories of one of her most painful defeats.

It was Sukova who defeated Navratilova in the Australian Open semi-finals last year, ending her bid to complete a historic calendar year Grand Slam.

Second seeded Navratilova took her career record against Sukova to 9-1 with a ruthless victory in just 56 minutes.

"It wasn't a personal vendetta — just a professional one," Navratilova said.

Navratilova earned a semi-final meeting Thursday with U.S. Open Champion Hana Mandlikova, also of Czechoslovakia.

Mandlikova defeated sixth seeded Zina Garrison of the United States 2-6, 6-3, 6-3 in her quarter-final.

The other semi-final will be between defending champion Chris Evert Lloyd of the United States, the top seed, and fifth seeded Claudia Kohde-Kilsch of West Germany.

Kohde-Kilsch Tuesday ended the run of 10th seeded Catarina

Lindqvist of Sweden by defeating the baseliner 6-4, 6-0, while Evert Lloyd downed seventh seeded Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria 6-3, 6-3.

Wimbledon Champion Navratilova will welcome a re-match with Mandlikova, whom she beat in the final of the Sydney tournament late last month.

Mandlikova, however, displayed some steely resolve in downing Garrison, a formidable grass court opponent.

In the men's singles, two-time champion Mats Wilander of Sweden raced past unseeded American Tim Wilkison 7-6, 6-3, 6-3 to move into the last eight.

Wilander, aiming to win the fifth Grand Slam title of his career, has dropped only one set in the tournament.

He was too consistent and persistent for power-serving Wilkison.

Unworried by rain showers that interrupted the match early on, Wilander took the first set tie-breaker 7-1 and was always in command from that point on.

The cool Swede earned a meeting with another two-time champion, South African-born Johan

Kriek.

The rest of the quarter-final line-up is: Michiel Schapers vs Stefan Edberg, John McEnroe vs Slobodan Zivojnovic and John Lloyd vs Ivan Lendl or Christo Steyn.

Early morning rain Tuesday meant there was insufficient time for top seeded Lendl's match against unseeded South African Steyn to be played Tuesday.

Unheralded Dutchman Schapers, who scored a second round triumph over Wimbledon Champion Boris Becker of West Germany, continued his fairytale run in the event.

Schapers led American Tim Gullikson 7-6 when Gullikson was forced to withdraw with severe spasms of the upper and lower back.

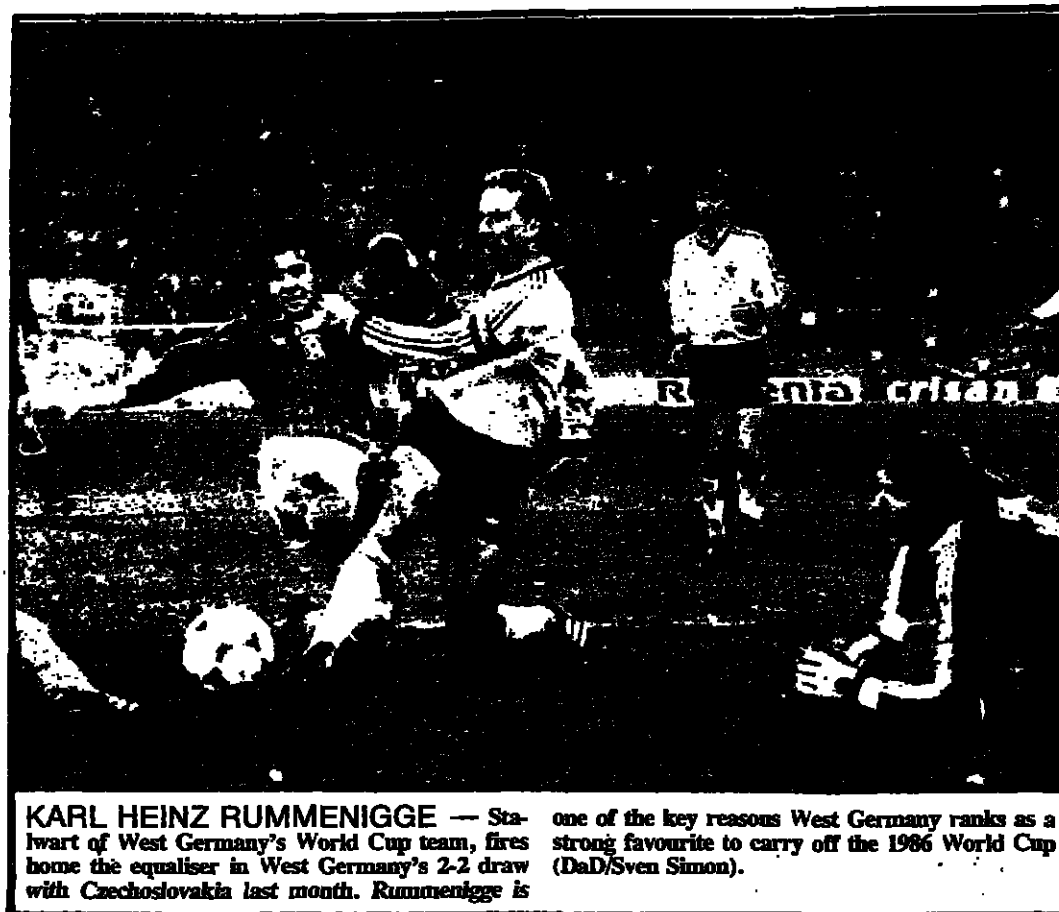
Schapers, ranked just 188th in the world, took out the tiebreaker seven points to love before Gullikson decided he had had enough.

Lloyd, beaten finalist in the 1977 Australian Open, played extremely well to defeat seventh seeded Joakim Nystrom of Sweden 6-2, 1-6, 6-4, 6-7, 6-4.

Lloyd, husband of Chris Evert Lloyd, rallied from 0-3 down in the decisive set.

"I thought he was never going to lay down and die," said Lloyd.

Fifth seeded Edberg of Sweden had to save two match points in the third set before defeating Australian Wally Masur 6-7, 2-6, 7-6, 6-4, 6-2.



KARL HEINZ RUMMENIGGE — Star of West Germany's World Cup team, fires home the equaliser in West Germany's 2-2 draw with Czechoslovakia last month. Rummenigge is one of the key reasons West Germany ranks as a strong favourite to carry off the 1986 World Cup. (Dad/Sven Simon).

Those old folks at Werder are on top

By Paul Radford

Reuter

BONN — Critics dubbed them the "Pensioners" and joked that they should open a soccer old folks' home.

But Werder Bremen may well have the last laugh as they romp towards the West German championship.

Werder, with seven members of their first team over 30, proved they are no football geriatrics by becoming "Autumn Champions" last weekend, halfway leaders in the race for the title.

They did it in style, making 1983 champions Stuttgart look like the has-beens by handing out a 6-0 thrashing to open up a three-point lead at the top.

Before the season started, Werder, last year's runners-up, were dismissed by almost all experts as being too old to figure in this year's title race and became the focus of scathing jokes about pension books and walking sticks.

But the "Pensioners" have silenced the wisecracks with their scintillating play, leaving the critics to compare them with a wine which improves with age.

"There is no rule which says a player is no good because he's only 18 or because he's already 35," trainer Otto Rehagel said.

"Age doesn't enter into it at all." The shrewd Rehagel was not talking idly as he showed last month when an injury crisis forced him into the transfer market.

He helped resurrect all the "pensioner" jokes by snapping up Manfred Burgsmueller from second-division Rot-Weiss Oberhausen, a striker who celebrates his 36th birthday just before Christmas.

Burgsmueller, whose blond locks do not yet betray grey streaks, proved an immediate investment by knocking in three goals in his first three games.

"Burgsmueller has been consistently underrated," Rehagel said of his new signing. "He is still one of the very finest players in the country."

In his first game he formed an instant, almost telepathic understanding with Werder's international star Rudi Voeller, scoring the vital winner away at Chemnitz.

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Burgsmueller struck twice more against Stuttgart, snapping up both chances with the zest of a teenager and the coolness of a goal-scorer of the best pedigree.

Burgsmueller, who has a contract until 1987, certainly has pedigree. Only three players have ever bettered his 182 goals in the Bundesliga, most of them scored for his former club Borussia Dortmund.

He was the second division's top scorer last season with 29 goals and the fact that he only won three full caps for West Germany, the last back in 1978, is usually put down to his reputation as a troublemaker.

Burgsmueller, the oldest of the "pensioners," leads quite a distinguished cast of over-30s.

Goalkeeper Dieter Burdenski is 35, Japanese utility man Yasuhiko Okudera is 33, midfielders Benno Moehlmann and Wolfgang Sidka both 31 and central defenders Michael Kutzop and Bruno Pezzey, an Austrian international, are 30.

mpionship rivals Borussia Moenchengladbach.

The goal was one of pure quality — a delicate lob from 20 metres over advancing goalkeeper Uli Sude, with the outside of his right boot.

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Scotland hoping to avoid 'biggest upset'

MELBOURNE (R) — Barring a disaster which would be one of the worst in their soccer history, Scotland should beat Australia Wednesday to clinch the 24th and final qualifying place for next year's World Cup finals in Mexico.

Though missing three players from the team which beat the unsightly but enthusiastic "Socceroos" 2-0 in the first leg of their qualifying play-off, manager Alex Ferguson is quietly confident Scotland can score at least once to ensure a comfortable win and a place in their fourth consecutive finals.

Australia held the nervous Scots until the 57th minute in the first leg at Glasgow's Hampden Park and Ferguson is not underestimating their hopes in front of a capacity 30,000-crowd at the Olympic Park Stadium.

"They will be as tough as they were at Hampden. They have got good resilience. They can soak up pressure and they are competitive," said Ferguson, adding that a 2-0 lead was a good buffer against any opposition.

Australia's flamboyant coach Frank Arok, who has already performed a small miracle in taking his team to the play-off, is hoping for an early goal. "I have been praying and I've asked my grandma to pray for an early goal," he said.

Scotland, who have struggled to defeat inferior opponents in the past, will be without Kenny Dalglish, Gordon Strachan and Steve Nicol, who all played in the first leg.

Ferguson has drafted in David Speedie to replace Dalglish in attack alongside Frank McAvennie, the English first division's leading marksman who made a scoring international debut in Glasgow. Richard Gough replaces Nicol at full-back and Paul McStay takes over from Strachan in midfield.

Ferguson believes Scotland, who have disappointed in previous World Cup finals, are on the verge of greatness. "We need success to enable us to realise our full potential," he said.

"If we get a goal, it will be curtains for Australia. I don't think they could possibly score four goals and I am sure they realise there is no way back if we get one."

Scotland captain Graeme Souness, who flew in earlier Tuesday from Rome after playing for Sampdoria on Sunday, will win his 50th cap Wednesday. He said: "It would be one of the biggest upsets in Scottish football history if we lost."

After a week's agonising, Arok has made only two team changes, replacing Joe Watson, one of his three Scottish-born players, with midfielder Jim Patikas and suspended defender Steve O'Connor, with Robbie Dunn.

predecessors failed to remedy. "I do think that there are many good players and if only they will apply themselves properly to the task in hand they can achieve a lot," Smith told Reuters.

"The expectations are very high because people here recognise that they have many good players," he said.

A friendly match here in October between Egypt and Mexico ended with Egypt winning 2-1 and both sides trading blows and kicks. Three Egyptian players were sent off in the dying minutes and midfielder Magdi Abdul Ghani is currently serving an indefinite ban from the national squad for his part.

Last month Smith travelled to Kuwait where a friendly ended in a scoreless draw after 90 minutes of near misses by both sides.

"The secret of great sides such as Brazil, Italy and West Germany is that they work hard to create chances and whenever they get a chance to score they make sure," he said.

Before he can attempt to capture the cup Egypt last won in 1959, Smith, 49, has to wrestle with problems which some of his

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"The secret of great sides such as Brazil, Italy and West Germany is that they work hard to create chances and whenever they get a chance to score they make sure," he said.

Before he can attempt to capture the cup Egypt last won in 1959, Smith, 49, has to wrestle with problems which some of his

predecessors failed to remedy. "I do think that there are many good players and if only they will apply themselves properly to the task in hand they can achieve a lot," Smith told Reuters.

"The expectations are very high because people here recognise that they have many good players," he said.

A friendly match here in October between Egypt and Mexico ended with Egypt winning 2-1 and both sides trading blows and kicks. Three Egyptian players were sent off in the dying minutes and midfielder Magdi Abdul Ghani is currently serving an indefinite ban from the national squad for his part.

Seoul Olympic TV battle continues

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The signing of a contract with the National Broadcasting Co. of the United States for rights to televise the 1988 Seoul Olympic has been postponed, causing the organising committee to fear a money shortage, newspaper reports said Tuesday.

Dong-A Ilbo, a leading Seoul newspaper, said the official signing of the contract had been scheduled for Dec. 6 at the Swiss headquarters of the International

Olympic Committee but has been postponed at least until the end of the year.

Seoul Olympic Committee officials refused to confirm or deny the accounts.

The newspaper accounts said, however, that a stalemate resulted from differences over details of a preliminary contract, initiated on Oct. 3 in New York, which guaranteed a minimum of \$300 million for South Korea.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4800/10	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3905/10	Canadian dollars
	2.5317/27	West German marks
	2.8475/90	Dutch guilders
	2.1105/15	Swiss francs
	51.40/45	Belgian francs
	7.7200/50	French francs
	1722/1723	Italian lire
	204.70/80	Japanese yen
	7.6800/50	Swedish crowns
	7.6180/230	Norwegian crowns
	9.1600/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	322.50/323.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed above the day's lows lifted by news GEC is seeking to discuss a 160p per share offer for Plessey. Dealers said the resulting rally in the electrical sector helped the FTSE 100 recover from its afternoon low of 1,402.7 to 1,414.9 at 1530 GMT, a fall of 3.6 on the day.

GEC ended 12p up at 186 on the announcement, having dipped to 168 after half-year results. Plessey, which dealers said had been firm on market rumours of a possible subsidiary sale, jumped to 174 from 144 having closed on Monday at 136.

Interest spilled over into other electricals with STC 6p up at 96. Thorn EMI 10p up at 427 and Racal 10p higher at 162.

Among other companies announcing results Trafalgar House closed 8p lower at 387 after full-year results, while Ranks Hovis finished 6p off at 178, despite a 41 per cent rise in full-year pretax profit. United Biscuits fell 17p to 257 after 252 and Tate and Lyle fell 20p to 563.

Cable and Wireless closed 10p down at 610 after news the 146.1 million share offer by the company and the U.K. government was underwritten at a fully-paid price of 587p per share. ICI ended unchanged at 711 after a low of 709. Glaxo rose 5p to 1,550, while Imperial was 6p down at 235. At 1540 GMT the FT 30 index was up 3.7 at 1,128.1 after a low of 1,110.8.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4, 1985
GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning is likely to bring all sorts of obstacles in the path of your desires so be prepared and use the patience required to handle them.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Work on pending interests during the day, and tonight you can seek information regarding new outlets.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can handle that obligation after lunch and feel happy about it. The evening is best for contacting one who is out of town.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Think about how to make things easier with a pompous person and later all works out just fine for you.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Your work starts rather slowly in the morning but later all speeds up and you can accomplish a good deal.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Plan some needed recreation, but a delay may come up that needs a little patience, and then all works out fine.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) The situation is not satisfying in the morning, but take it easy and then all straightens itself out later.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You find it difficult to communicate well in the morning, but later you can express yourself very well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be careful you handle money carefully in the morning, and later you can understand how to expand.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Some situation you do not like is bothering you in the morning, but later you can gain in personal affairs.

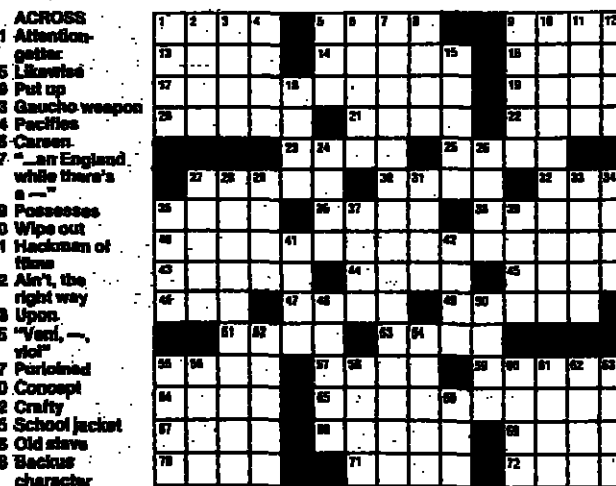
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Some private worry can be eradicated after lunch, and then you can make a fine plan to gain your wishes.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Being with friends and acquaintances during the daytime is wise today. Enjoy artistic persons at amusements.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You feel you are not getting ahead as fast as you like in the outside world, but can soon make progress by leaps and bounds.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she can quickly understand different philosophies of life and be very brilliant, and must learn foreign languages. Teach not to be overly independent. Teach to be more thoughtful of others and to be a more cooperative person.

THE Daily Crossword by Roger Coburn



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- Yester's Puzzle Solved:
- | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|----------------|
| 1 Across | Attention-getter | 41 Across | Small — the | 55 Across | Art — |
| 2 Across | Landfill | 42 Across | Novice | 56 Across | Son of Judah |
| 3 Across | Put up | 43 Across | Novice | 57 Across | Winglike |
| 4 Across | Gasoline weapon | 44 Across | Disarm course | 58 Across | Arab part |
| 5 Across | Pedicle | 45 Across | Old city of | 59 Across | Demolish |
| 6 Across | Curlew | 46 Across | Lucania | 60 Across | Br. ramp |
| 7 Across | ...an England while there's | 47 Across | ...the | 61 Across | Glacial ridges |
| 8 Across | Possesses | 48 Across | ...the | 62 Across | Comic Louis |
| 9 Across | Wipe out | 49 Across | ...the | | |
| 10 Across | Hackmen of | 50 Across | ...the | | |
| 11 Across | Wipe out | 51 Across | ...the | | |
| 12 Across | Aln't, the right way | 52 Across | ...the | | |
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Congress allows minting, sale of U.S. gold coins

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress on Monday passed a bill that authorizes the minting and sale of U.S. gold coins.

Final action in the House of Representatives came on a voice vote. The Senate passed the legislation on Nov. 14 and no opposition is expected from the administration of President Ronald Reagan.

There will be four gold bullion coins — \$50, \$25, \$10 and \$5 — whose prices will fluctuate with the gold market and will not be tied to the nominal dollar designation on the coin.

"No longer will Americans wanting to buy gold coins have to buy foreign coins," said Mr. Frank Annunzio, Democratic chairman of the Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs Subcommittee on consumer affairs, and coinage.

The new American bullion coins would not be sold to the public until Oct. 1, 1986 so as not to interfere with the sale of a Statue of Liberty coin.

When the four coins are minted, it will mark the first time in 53

years that the United States produced its own general circulation gold coins.

The U.S. gold coins would be legal tender for their face value but would be sold by the Treasury Department at the market value, plus minting, marketing and distribution costs.

Dealers expect the coins will be sought mainly by collectors and investors. Profits from the sales would be used to reduce the national debt.

The coins would be sold at bulk rates "at a reasonable discount." President Ronald Reagan has requested a report from the Treasury Department on the feasibility of producing an American gold coin for general circulation when he banned further importation of South Africa's Kruggerand.

Representative Jerry Lewis, Republican, a chief sponsor of the bill, said that in 1984 alone, the United States had a gold coin trade deficit of more than \$1 billion. He said \$400 million of that deficit went directly to the South African government for the trading of the Kruggerand.

India halves inflation rate, minister says

NEW DELHI (R) — India has halved its inflation rate and controlled price rises this year, Finance Minister Vishwanath Prasad Singh said Tuesday. Mr. Singh told parliament inflation in fiscal 1985-86 ending next March 31 was averaging 4.6 per cent, compared with nine to 10 per cent in 1984-85. He said prices of fruit, vegetables, fish, poultry and mutton rose in the past year but tea, coffee, jute and cotton were cheaper than a year ago.

Le Monde offers shares to public

PARIS (R) — France's prestigious but financially troubled Le Monde daily newspaper Monday offered 30,000 shares to the public, selling a 12.28 per cent stake in the paper which until now was owned and run by staff and founder-members only. The launch of the shares, at 500 francs (\$62) and limited to 10 per buyer, signals a radical shift for the newspaper created in 1944. The paper said the share launch aimed to bring in an extra 15 million francs (nearly \$2 million) to help put it back on a sound financial footing after the announcement earlier this year that it was on the brink of collapse with an accumulated debt of 90 million francs (\$11 million).

JTEC conducts technical seminar

AMMAN — As part of an assistance and cooperation programme concluded with the University of Jordan, the Jordan Tractor and Equipment Company Ltd., Caterpillar dealer in Jordan, on Tuesday conducted a technical seminar for fifth year mechanical engineering students at the university.

An elaborate presentation was



University of Jordan students and experts from JTEC hold an open discussion on Tuesday.

Winter price rises bring cold comfort to OPEC producers

LONDON (R) — Cold weather in the northern hemisphere, restocking by oil companies and lagging deliveries from the Soviet Union have sharply increased oil prices in recent weeks, but OPEC producers know the good times are not here to stay.

As oil ministers of the OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) gather in Geneva for their regular conference which begins on Friday, the once-powerful cartel looks increasingly like 13 disparate states jockeying for advantage in a waning market.

For the first time in several months, the spot price of Saudi Arabia's Arab light crude, the unofficial marker on which other OPEC prices are based, last week rose above its official level of \$28 a barrel.

But analysts, the big oil companies and even OPEC itself know the buoyant market is fragile and that prices will probably tumble in the spring.

"The firmer prices in world spot oil markets are temporary and they are likely to fall again by the second quarter of next year," Indonesian Oil Minister Subroto told reporters in Jakarta.

He and other experts base this belief on the present market reality that too much oil is chasing too

not be realistic," he told a recent London oil conference.

United Arab Emirates Minister Mansour bin Juma went further, declaring that in view of the pressure on OPEC sales created by the non-OPEC states' refusal to cooperate, "each producer is free to sell its oil at any price."

His remarks brought an anguished response from Dr. Subroto: "It's impossible. What is the purpose of an organisation if each member goes its own way?"

Dr. Subroto and Dr. Tam David-West of Nigeria favour price flexibility but want to keep total output fixed, while Saudi Arabia's Ahmad Zaki Yamani advocates controls on both prices and production.

But several members, among them Iran, Iraq and Ecuador, have openly said they will produce what they like, and overall OPEC output has now reached up to two million barrels per day (b/d) above the official ceiling of 16 million b/d.

In Geneva, Ecuador will counter the idea of flexible prices with a proposal that output should vary with seasonal demand.

In addition, Venezuelan Oil Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti said in Caracas last week he had a plan that could make "a

fundamental contribution towards stabilising prices and defending OPEC's participation in the oil market."

He declined to reveal his ideas before discussing them with other ministers in advance of the conference or the meeting of OPEC's market monitoring committee that precedes it on Thursday.

Kuwaiti Minister Ali Al Khalifa, Al Sabah said in a recent newspaper interview: "I don't believe the coming meeting will end disputes between OPEC countries."

He forecast that the official pricing structure would be retained but that spot prices would drop by \$3 a barrel by February or March, necessitating a further meeting of the OPEC ministerial council before April to review the options.

Sheikh Yamani was more pessimistic.

Repeating his often-voiced warnings of an impending price war, he told a Kuwaiti "newspaper" that if members opted "to produce what they like and sell what they want, I expect the price to fall to \$20."

Despite OPEC's now perennial disarray and its waning influence in world oil markets, its more long-sighted members have not entirely given up hope.

Suez Canal suffers traffic, costs problems

CAIRO — The view on a recent early morning from the windows of Abdul Rahman Montaza's office on the sixth floor of the Suez Canal Authority (SCA) building in Ismailia was of ships gliding in orderly procession through the canal from the Red Sea on their way to the Mediterranean.

It was a tranquil and perhaps misleading scene, for these are troubled times for the Suez Canal Authority. Revenues are down again this year because of a weak international oil market and the disruption to shipping in the Gulf caused by the Iran-Iraq war, among other factors.

Mr. Montaza, second in charge of the SCA, is optimistic that 1986 will see an improvement in traffic and an end to the worrying slide in earnings of one of Egypt's prime hard currency sources.

In the meantime, those responsible for administering the canal are seeking ways to increase revenue — tolls are going up on average by about 3.4 per cent in the new year — and to ensure that the waterway remains competitive against alternative routes and means of transport such as pipelines.

A measure of the effect of the soft oil market on the canal was the fact that in the first nine months of 1985, oil tanker tonnage was down 13.3 per cent on the same period in 1984.

General cargo tonnage registered a 3.5 per cent drop to the end of September, giving an average reduction in traffic passing through the canal of about seven per cent.

Last year, business was down 1.9 per cent on 1983, the first decrease since the canal was reopened to traffic in 1975 after Egypt launched the October 1973 war against Israel.

Between 1975 and 1983, canal revenues increased dramatically, particularly after a project to widen and deepen the waterway was completed at the end of 1980. In that year, earnings were \$676 million and rose to \$980 million in 1983 at the peak.

Apart from the general downturn in demand for oil and the Gulf War, Mr. Montaza blames the world's massive surplus of tanker tonnage for the reduction in traffic. There is an overall surplus against demand of 58 per cent, he said, and for tankers over 150,000 tonnes excess capacity is 111 per cent.

This means that much of the world tanker fleet is either laid up or slow steaming to save fuel and therefore prepared to take longer routes such as the one round the Cape, thereby by-passing the Suez Canal.

The time factor for many tanker owners, he said, is no longer so vital because with the oil glut it has been cheaper to keep their vessels on the high seas until they could take advantage of market fluctuations.

In establishing new charges for which Mr. Montaza has direct responsibility as chairman of the tolls committee, the SCA devotes considerable resources to keeping abreast of oil market trends, the state of the world economy, notably conditions in countries whose imports and exports pass through the canal, and shipping dev-

elopments.

Mr. Montaza's committee was concerned to arrest a slide in usage of the canal by oil tankers — particularly heavier vessels. Thus, the average increase in tolls for tankers will be about 2.7 per cent compared with 3.8 per cent for general cargo and container ships and 3.9 per cent for bulk carriers.

Tankers carrying more than 85,000 tonnes of crude could in fact pay up to about 12 per cent less than they were before, because of a reduction in rates applying to laden vessels exceeding that tonnage.

The maximum load for ships using the canal is 150,000 tonnes, which precludes passage by supertankers if fully or even partially laden. These large vessels frequently transit the canal in ballast.

The biggest to date was a supertanker of 426,000 deadweight tonnes.

Announcing the recent toll increases, SCA chairman, Mr. Mohammad Adel Elzayat, said it was partly to compensate for inflation in developed and industrial countries. He made no mention of rising costs in Egypt itself which are running well ahead of inflation in the industrialised world.

Revenues from the canal are therefore being squeezed at both ends — from a reduction in traffic and from increased costs of maintenance and servicing.

Mr. Montaza was reluctant to give an account of the percentage of revenues devoted to maintaining the waterway, but it could be as high as one-third.

The SCA has 14,500 employees and maintains some 70 vessels,

including heavy duty dredges which are continually in operation widening and clearing the canal.

Then there is the debt to be serviced on loans outstanding from the \$128 billion first stage of the canal's redevelopment under which the draught of ships that could be accommodated was increased from 38 to 53 feet.

Mr. Montaza said about \$600 million had been paid off from the SCA budget. Much of the financing had come in the form of soft loans from, among others, the World Bank, Japan and the U.S.

He said plans for a second stage, allowing the canal to accommodate 260,000 tonne tankers, had been ruled out for the time being because "the rate of return does not encourage us to begin the project."

The SCA is proceeding nevertheless with its canal widening project to allow two ships to pass each other in safety. At present 68 kilometres of the 195 kilometres waterway can accommodate two vessels abreast.

Mr. Montaza said one of the reasons for optimism about improved traffic in 1986 was a decision by Saudi Arabia to increase oil exports and the fact that Iraq was beginning to pump oil through a newly-completed pipeline into the Saudi system, which would be shipped from near the Red Sea port of Yanbu.

"The canal's future is secure," declared Mr. Montaza. "The problems we are facing at the moment are due to circumstances in the area, but we have not been affected too much."

— Financial Times news feature.

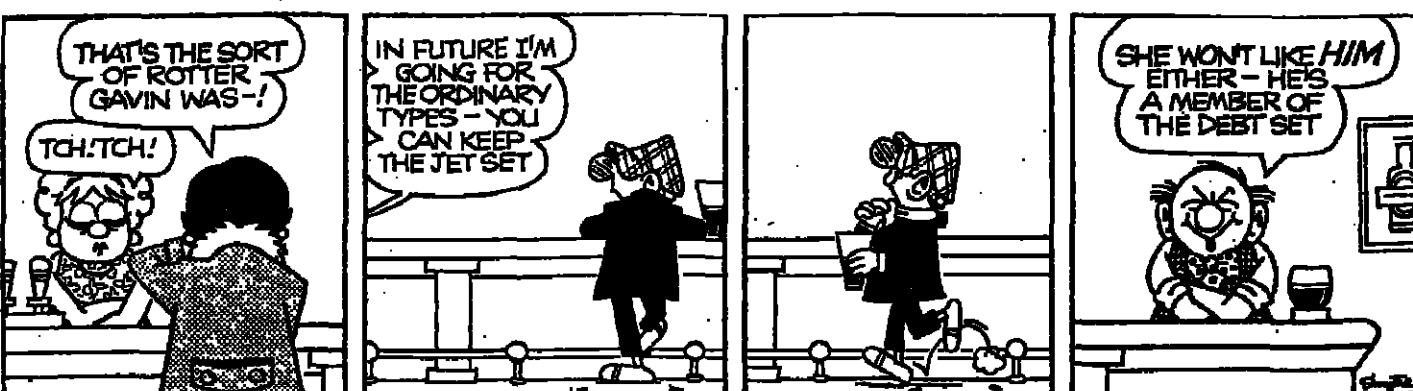
Peanuts



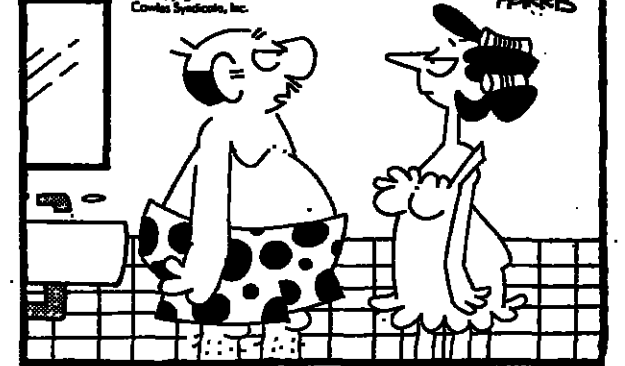
Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER: YOUR (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: VERVE PATIO SICKEN CASHWE
Answer: Some college kids who spend too much time with a pigskin sometimes fail to get this—A SHEEPSKIN

Corazon Aquino to run against Marcos in polls

MANILA (R) — Corazon Aquino, widow of murdered Philippine opposition leader Benigno Aquino, said Tuesday she would run against President Ferdinand Marcos in elections set for Feb. 7.

She made her announcement at a press conference shortly after Mr. Marcos signed into law a bill setting the election date.

"I hereby affirm my candidacy for president and I confirm my willingness to serve the people if elected to the office of the republic," she said.

Mrs. Aquino, 52, long under pressure from supporters to stand against Mr. Marcos, announced her decision in 24 hours after a court cleared her husband's chief Gen. Fabian Ver, 29 other soldiers and a civilian of involvement in her husband's murder in 1983.

The election bill was approved late Monday night by the National Assembly, which immediately went into recess until after the poll.

After Mr. Marcos signed the bill, the Philippine Bar Association announced a dozen opposition MPs filed a petition with the supreme court challenging its constitutionality.

They asked the court to order the commission on elections and national treasury to desist from enforcing the law and to declare it unconstitutional and invalid.

They argued that Mr. Marcos must resign before an election can be held. Court sources said the 13 Marcos-appointed justices were unlikely to discuss the petition until next week.

In ruling for an election, 18 months before his term of office expires, Mr. Marcos wrote a letter of resignation effective only after the winner is declared and sworn in.

Other bill signed by Mr. Marcos

There is no indication who he might choose as his vice-president but many analysts believe he might name his politically influential and ambitious wife, Imelda Marcos, despite her insistence that she would not be a candidate.

Mr. Marcos' ruling New Society Movement (KBL) was to have held a convention next Saturday to nominate him as its candidate but on Tuesday Mr. Marcos said the meeting had been postponed until Wednesday, the same day that opposition groups planned to hold theirs.

The presidential palace said the date was changed at "the request of many delegates, especially those from far-flung places, who said they need more time to prepare."

Mrs. Aquino said she would respect an agreement with the United States on the presence of two U.S. military bases until 1991 when the lease runs out but that she was pledged to finally removing them.

She added: "We cannot say definitely 1991 is the cut off period. Before we decide to remove the U.S. bases I also want to be very sure that no other foreign bases will be established here."

Mrs. Aquino also said she would defer a positive statement on the question.

Mr. Laurel, however, has said he would like a referendum to decide whether the bases should remain.

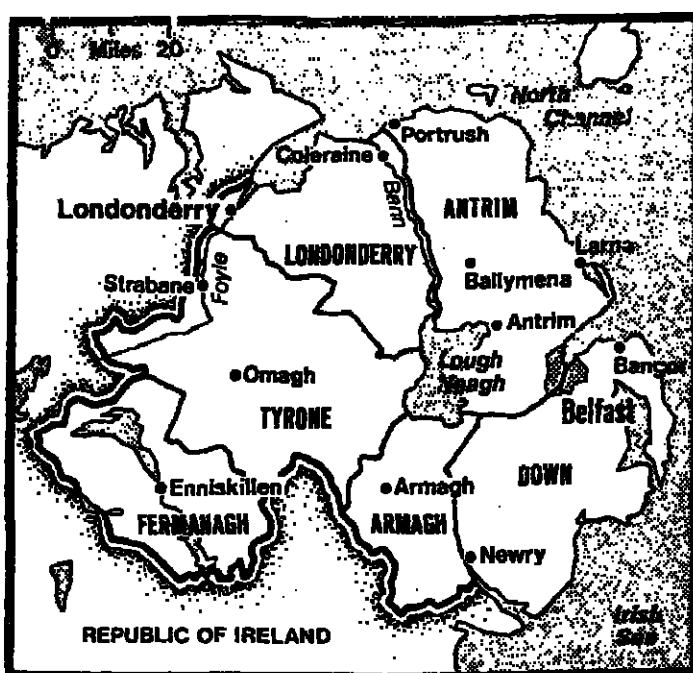
Imelda Marcos was recently asked if she thought Mrs. Aquino represented a moral cause. Mrs. Marcos was quoted as saying: "Moral cause. Ha, Ha, Ha."

Asked to comment on Imelda's reaction, Mrs. Aquino said: "For the time being I will allow Imelda Marcos to talk all she wants but when the campaign starts I will give her my answers."

David White, first secretary at the British embassy, said he had handed over a letter to the funeral committee from the British ambassador "expressing sympathy with the people of Mamelodi and the other townships around Pretoria."

Police and troops stayed away from the stadium where the funeral was being held but several hundred waited in the streets nearby.

Amid continued overnight protests across South Africa a black man was burnt to death when his house near Port Elizabeth in the eastern Cape was set alight by arsonists, police said Tuesday.



Mugabe meets Gorbachev

MOSCOW (R) — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, on his first visit to the Soviet Union, had talks Tuesday with Communist Party chief Mikhail Gorbachev.

The official News Agency TASS said the two met in the Kremlin but gave no further details.

Hopes of Ugandan peace pact fade after optimism

NAIROBI (R) — Hopes that the Ugandan military government and rebels would sign a peace agreement Tuesday faded when an informed Ugandan official said prospects did not appear good.

The official, who declined to be named, told Reuters: "I don't think anything will be signed today."

Ugandan sources said the ruling military council was meeting in Kampala to discuss the outcome of a meeting held Monday between the armed forces commander, Gen. Bazilio Okello, and Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi.

Head of state Gen. Tito Okello may fly to Nairobi for the signing ceremony after the meeting, but it was highly unlikely he would leave Tuesday, they added.

Kampala Radio made no mention of plans to sign a peace agreement on its 1 p.m. (1000 GMT) news bulletin.

Kenyan Foreign Ministry spokesman Sam Ruvoro said earlier he expected the signing ceremony to take place Tuesday, although one or two problems still needed to be sorted out.

Although the terms of the accord have not been announced, statements from both sides have indicated that it will allow the rebel National Resistance Army (NRA) a major role in the ruling military council.

The talks have seen under the chairmanship of Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi. On Monday night Mr. Arap Moi said Tuesday "will be the day, for better or worse."

Bitter fighting is reported to be continuing between the government and National Resistance Army (NRA) rebels despite the expected peace agreement.

The Kampala newspaper Muniso said Monday government troops had repulsed NRA guerrillas at Buwama, south west of Kampala after a fierce exchange of fire on Saturday.

During the negotiations, the NRA demanded half the seats on the military council but the government insisted on reserving some places for former supporters of ex-dictator Idi Amin for the sake of national unity.

The rebels have their stronghold in south west Uganda, where they have an excellent reputation for discipline.

Pakistan issues ultimatum to Khyber Pass tribes

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan has issued an ultimatum to dissident Pashtun tribes in the lawless Khyber Pass, telling chiefs to surrender or see their homes destroyed and lands occupied, officials said Tuesday.

Sixteen tribal chiefs known to be armed by the Communist government in neighbouring Afghanistan were told to hand themselves in by Monday night, they said.

Dozens of tanks and thousands of troops have been sent to the Khyber district to back up the threat, the government's biggest crackdown on the unruly tribes in years.

The mountainous district was sealed off from outside traffic, making it impossible to learn immediately whether the tribes took any action Monday night.

The crackdown signalled the end of the government's efforts to negotiate with a leading dissident chief, Wali Khan Kukikhel, who in

Thatcher, FitzGerald discuss Irish accord

LUXEMBOURG (AP) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Irish Prime Minister Garret FitzGerald met Tuesday and confirmed that the Anglo-Irish accord signed last month would be implemented as planned, despite opposition by Protestant leaders in Northern Ireland.

The Nov. 25 agreement calls for a consultative role in troubled Northern Ireland by the Irish Republic, with safeguards for the Catholic minority.

Protestant, or unionist, leaders have bitterly complained that the agreement endangers the future of the Protestant majority community in Northern Ireland and that it will eventually be absorbed into the 95 per cent Catholic Irish Republic.

A statement issued by British and Irish officials after the 45-minute meeting Tuesday said the two leaders "reviewed the position following the signature of the Anglo-Irish agreement, and they confirmed the agreement would be implemented as planned."

"They recognised the concern about the agreement among the unionist community. They hoped that that community would come to understand the reassurance on the status of Northern Ireland and other matters which the agreement offers."

Meanwhile the Republic of Ireland's police chief met with his Northern Ireland counterpart Monday for the first time in almost three years, the first evidence of improved security cooperation promised in the Nov. 25 agreement.

Laurence Wren, commissioner of the Republic's Garda Siochana, met for four hours with Sir John Hermon, chief constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, at the Garda's headquarters in Dublin's Phoenix Park.

Afterwards, the two forces issued statements saying only that the two men had "discussed matters of security."

The British news agency Press Association reported that the police chiefs were thought to have laid the groundwork for decisions they will make at the first meeting of the Anglo-Irish intergovernmental conference.

The conference, set up under the Anglo-Irish agreement, is expected to meet sometime later this month in or near Belfast.

Soldiers erected barbed wire fences Monday around a possible meeting site at Maryfield, 10 kilometres east of Belfast. No place or date for the meeting has been officially announced.

Monday's meeting was necessary to deal with a rift that developed between Wren and Hermon after the Northern Ireland police detained for some hours a man who was supposed to be a prosecution witness in a court case in the Republic. The case collapsed when the witness did not appear.



Wheelchair robbers steal \$7.6m

COPENHAGEN (R) — Two robbers, one in a wheelchair, stole 70 million Danish crowns (\$7.6 million) in a raid at a post office here Tuesday, police said. One of the men apparently pushed the other in the chair to the entrance of the post office in Herlev, north-west Copenhagen, as a bank security van arrived to collect the cash, police added.

The robbers then hit a security man on the head with an iron bar and escaped to a waiting car with a sack containing the cash. Danish police have issued descriptions of the two robbers and their escape car.

14 tribesmen killed in Stone Age clash

JAKARTA (R) — Fourteen people were killed and an unknown number wounded when tribesmen fought with axes and arrows in a clash over land rights, diplomats and travellers said Tuesday. They said the battle between warriors wearing nothing but yellow penis gourds and bows' tusks through their noses took place last month deep in the central highlands of Indonesian New Guinea.

The combatants from two rival clans in Indonesia's biggest and most backward province of Irian Jaya used bows and arrows and primitive stone axes. At least one had his skull split by an axe, travellers said. Missionaries said seven men from each side were killed — avoiding the cruel and often protracted vendettas which continue in clan warfare after a clash in which an uneven number of tribesmen die. Diplomats said Indonesian security forces turned a blind eye to the violent battle preferring to let the two Dani tribes settle the issue in their traditional way.

Man pleads no contest to drug charge in Kennedy case

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida (R) — One of two men accused of selling cocaine to David Kennedy before he was found dead last year of a drug overdose has pleaded no contest to a drug conspiracy charge and was placed on probation. Kennedy, the 28-year-old son of the late Senator Robert Kennedy, was found dead of a drug overdose in his room at a Brazilian Court Hotel in Palm Beach on April 24, 1984. A judge ordered former hotel porter David Dorris, 32, to serve 18 months probation after he pleaded no contest to one count of conspiracy to sell cocaine. Prosecutors dropped a more serious charge of selling of cocaine, which carries a mandatory 15-year jail term.

Mexico protests over diplomat detention

MOSCOW (R) — The Mexican embassy said Tuesday it had protested to the Soviet Union over the detention of the Soviet-born ex-wife and children of a Mexican diplomat who was murdered in Moscow. A statement said the embassy delivered a protest note to the Soviet Foreign Ministry Monday charging that police had detained them without informing the embassy and had prevented Mexican officials from speaking to them. The diplomat, counsellor Manuel Portilla Jueveado, and his Mexican maid were found shot dead on Oct. 30 at his apartment in one of Moscow's compounds for foreign residents.

Accused 'night stalker' faces more charges

SANTA ANA, California (R) — Heavy security was imposed when alleged "night stalker" Richard Ramirez, already charged with 14 murders, was accused of further murder attempts and sexual assault. Californians bought guns and security alarms during a seven-week murder spree last summer by the "night stalker," so named because he broke into homes at night and murdered his victims while they slept. Marshals stood guard in the Santa Ana municipal courtroom and spectators had to pass through a metal detector before Ramirez, 25, looking pale and wearing blue prison overalls, was brought in to face the further charges. He was accused of the attempted murder of William Carrs, 29, who was shot in the head three times while asleep in his home, two counts of robbery and four counts of sexual assault on Aug. 15, the last in the attacks linked to the "night stalker." Carrs' fiancée was sexually attacked.

32,000 attend mass funeral in S. Africa

PRETORIA (R) — South African (R) — Diplomats from 11 Western countries joined thousands of mourning in this black township near Pretoria for the funeral of 12 people who died in clashes with security forces.

A convoy of five diplomatic cars drove from the tree-lined streets of a wealthy white suburb into the black township. It was stopped and checked in an army roadblock on the way.

An estimated 50,000 people, including opposition politicians, packed a sports stadium for the funeral as residents stayed away from work.

Thirteen people were killed

When security forces broke up an anti-government protest march here on Nov. 21, they included a two-month-old baby and a man aged 60 both overcome by tear gas. All but one of the victims were due to be buried Tuesday.

It was one of the worst episodes in nearly two years of South African unrest which has claimed more than 935 lives.

"The reason we are here is to express support for the principle of peaceful protest," Tim Carney, political counsellor at the U.S. embassy told reporters. "Many of us have friends here in Mamelodi and many of our employees are living here."

Turkey campaigns against U.S. genocide resolution

ANKARA (R) — A campaign by Turkey against a U.S. congressional resolution branding the killing of Armenians in World War I as genocide reached a climax Tuesday as the move was due to be discussed in Washington.

"Think carefully, Uncle Sam," blared a front-page banner headline in the news circulation Hurriyet newspaper. Turkish officials said that if the resolution were passed it would do untold damage to Turkish-U.S. relations.

On April 24 — the day Armenians mark the genocide — to be designated a day of man's inhumanity to man and it highlighted the assertion that 1.5 million Armenians were massacred in Ottoman Turkey.

The House of Representatives rules committee was due to decide Tuesday whether to send the resolution, by California Democrat Tony Coelho, to the floor of the House, a U.S. embassy spokesman said.

Many Turkish organisations, including political parties, trade unions and women's groups, have sent telegrams to Capitol Hill and the White House in protest.

The Foreign Affairs spokesman of the ruling Motherland Party, Bulent Arakcelil, told newsmen: "I said in my message the commemoration day does not reflect historical reality. Such a decision only gives support to international terrorism and would seriously damage Turkish-U.S. relations."

Afghan rebels reportedly destroy 15 Soviet tankers

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghan guerrillas destroyed 15 tankers en route from the Soviet Union to Kabul in the second major attack on a fuel convoy last month, Western diplomats said in Islamabad Tuesday.

The diplomats, citing reports from Kabul, said 15 civilians travelling in a bus close to the convoy were killed in the latest ambush.

It occurred on Nov. 25 south of the Hindu Kush Mountains in the Salang Pass, the main route connecting Kabul with the Soviet Union, they said.

An earlier attack on Nov. 16 set off a fireball that killed 10 Soviet soldiers and destroyed 27 tankers, according to the Jamiat-i-Islami Party which said it was responsible for the ambushes.

Afghan rebels also attacked a convoy full of consumer items north of the Salang Pass in late November, destroying 20 trucks and making off with many of the goods, the envoys added.

Soviet truck drivers now stick stars on their cab doors to mark each successful crossing of the Salang Pass, the most vulnerable part of the journey, the diplomats said.

They said Kabul residents have seen some heavy trucks sporting up to 25 stars to indicate how many times they have evaded the guerrillas of Commander Ahmad Shah Massoud from the nearby Panjshir Valley.

The diplomats said Kabul had been relatively quiet during the past week, with only three explosions from bombs or incoming rebel rockets.

Soviet troops continued to rocket and mortar villages in the Shomali Valley suspected of harbouring guerrillas fighting the Afghan government and the 115,000 Soviet troops backing it, the envoys said.

Scattered fighting was reported from Mazar-i-Sharif, the largely Soviet-controlled main city in northern Afghanistan, and Moscow's air and ground forces were said to be reinforcing their bases at Kandahar.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OSMAR DRAKE
The World's Most Famous Card Game

RESPECT YOUR TENS

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH		SOUTH	
♠ 7	♠ 765	♠ 765	♠ 765
♥ 4	♥ A Q 10 5	♥ A Q 10 5	♥ A Q 10 5
♦ 10 9 8 6	♦ 10 9 8 6	♦ 10 9 8 6	♦ 10 9 8 6

WEST EAST

♠ 10 9 8 6	♠ 76543
♥ 10 9 8 6	♥ 10 9 8 6
♦ 10 9 8 6	♦ 10 9 8 6
♣ 10 9 8 6	♣ 10 9 8 6

THE BIDDING:

1 ♠	1 ♥	1 ♦	1 ♣
2 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♦	2 ♣
3 ♠	3 ♥	3 ♦	3 ♣
4 ♠	4 ♥	4 ♦	4 ♣

Contract: 4 ♠

Declarer: East

Defenders: West and South

Play the hand. Ten of ♠.

Declarer leads the ten of ♠. West wins the trick and returns the ace of ♠. Declarer wins the trick and returns the king of ♠. West wins the trick and returns the queen of ♠. Declarer wins the trick and returns the jack of ♠. West wins the trick and returns the ten of ♠. Declarer wins the trick and returns the nine of ♠. West wins the trick and returns the eight of ♠. Declarer wins the trick and returns the seven of ♠. West wins the trick and returns the six of ♠. Declarer wins the trick and returns the five of ♠. West wins the trick and returns the four of ♠. Declarer wins the trick and returns the three of ♠. West wins the trick and returns the two of ♠. Declarer wins the trick and returns the ace of ♠. West wins the trick and returns the king of ♠. Declarer wins the trick and returns the queen of ♠. West wins the trick and returns the jack of ♠. Declarer wins the trick and returns the ten of ♠. West wins the trick and returns the nine of ♠. 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